

DESCRIPTION

OF

ENGLAND AND WALES.

CONTAINING

A particular ACCOUNT of each COUNTY,

WITH ITS

ANTIQUITIES,
CURIOSITIES,
SITUATION,
FIGURE,
EXTENT,
CLIMATE,
RIVERS,
LAKES,
MINERAL WATERS,

SOILS,
FOSSILS,
CAVERNS,
PLANTS and MINERALS,
AGRICULTURE,
CIVIL and ECCLESIASTICAL DIVISIONS,
CITIES,

TOWNS,
PALACES,
SEATS,
CORPORATIONS,
MARKETS,
FAIRS,
MANUFACTURES,
TRADE,
SIEGES,
BATTLES,

AND THE

LIVES of the illustrious MEN each COUNTY has produced.

Embellished with two hundred and forty COPPER PLATES,

OF

PALACES, CASTLES, CATHEDRALS;
THE

Ruins of ROMAN and SAXON BUILDINGS;

AND OF

ABBEYS, MONASTERIES, and other RELIGIOUS HOUSES.

Besides a Variety of CUTS of

URNS, INSCRIPTIONS, and other ANTIQUITIES.

V O L. II.

L O N D O N :

Printed for NEWBERRY and CARNAN, No. 65, the North
Side of St. Paul's Church-yard.

M D C C L X I X.

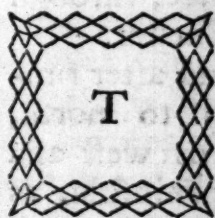
2





A
D E S C R I P T I O N
O F
E N G L A N D A N D W A L E S .

C H E S H I R E .



HIS county, which was by the Saxons called *Cestrescyre*, probably took it's name from the city of Chester. It is bounded on the east by Staffordshire and Derbyshire; on the west by the Irish sea, with Flintshire and Denbighshire; on the north by Lancashire; and on the south by Shropshire. It is about fifty miles in length, 25 in breadth, and 112 in circumference. The north west corner shoots out into the Irish sea, forming a peninsula, called *Wirall*, about sixteen miles long and seven broad. On each side of this peninsula is a creek, and into one or the other of these, all the rivers of the county are received. The principal rivers are the Dee, the Weaver, and the Mersey, The first rises from two fountains in Wales, and entering this county at Grafton, runs north to Chester, where it falls into the Irish sea, by

Parkgate, which is the south creek of the peninsula.

The Dee is the largest and longest river on the west side of Britain, between the Severn and the Clyde, and remarkable for force of current and quantity of water, both in winter, and upon hasty rains or snows; for at such times the Welch mountains pour down amazing floods, so that the height of the water is very frightful, and has often done great damage. The port, which is formed by the Hyle lake and the point of Aire, is but indifferent, the bar is often almost choaked up, and at best is very difficult, the ships being forced to unload at six miles distance, and send the goods up to the city, in small vessels, by reason of the sand-bank. But now by favour of late acts of parliament, they have in great measure surmounted this inconvenience, by having cut a channel ten miles long, at vast expence, through which large vessels can come up to Chester.

The Weaver rises in Shropshire, and after running about 20 miles from south to north, makes an angle at Northwich, turns west and falls into the north creek of the peninsula, as does the Mersey, which runs from the north east. Besides the rivers above-mentioned, this county abounds with meres and lakes, as Combermere, Bagmere, Pickmere, and the like. Other pieces of water of almost equal extent with the meres, are called pools, as Ridley pool, Petty pool, and some others. All these abound with carp, Tench, Bream, Trout, Eels, and other fish.

In this county are several medicinal springs, and in particular there is one at Stockport, which is said to be a stronger calybeat than that at Tunbridge.

This county also abounds with salt springs, from which great quantities of salt are obtained. These

These rise in Northwich, Middlewich, and Namptwich, which are therefore called the Salt Wiches, and likewise at Dunham; at the distance of about six miles from each other. The pits seldom exceed four yards in depth, and are never more than seven. The salt springs at Namptwich are about 30 miles from the sea, and generally lie along the side of the river Weaver. Middlewich has two excellent salt springs, and there are several others at Northwich, besides mines of rock salt, which we shall describe in treating of that town. All these springs lie near brooks of fresh water, and in meadow grounds, and the water is so cold at the bottom of the pits, that the briners cannot stay in them above half an hour at a time, nor so long, without frequently drinking strong liquors. The water is brought from the salt springs to the watch-houses as they are called, by troughs, and are there received into large casks set in the ground; from hence it is put into the leads, and a fire made for keeping it warm, during which, women, with wooden rakes, gather the salt as it settles to the bottom. After this it is put into salt barrows, a kind of wicker baskets in the shape of a sugar loaf reversed, that the water dropping from it, may leave the salt dry.

It is observable that some of these springs afford much more water than others, and that there is more salt in any given quantity of water drawn from the spring that yields little, than in the same quantity drawn from those that yield much; that the strength of the brine is generally in proportion to the paucity of the spring; and that more salt is produced from the same quantity of brine in dry weather than in wet. Some have supposed that these salt springs come from the sea, which is very improbable, because a quart of sea

water will yield no more than an ounce and a half of salt, while a quart of water from these springs will often produce seven or eight ounces: it is therefore much more probable that the water is thus strongly impregnated with salt, by passing through subterraneous rocks of salt, and that this is actually the case, is in a manner confirmed by such rocks being really discovered near some of these springs.

The air of this county is generally esteemed healthy, it being more serene than that of Lancashire; and the soil is for the most part good. That part which is low and level, was named by Edward I. *the Vale Royal of England*, on account of its great fruitfulness in corn, and the extraordinary richness of its pastures.

The mosses, which are here the same as the bogs in Ireland, yield plenty of turf, and large fir trees are sometimes found buried in them, which the poor split and use for candles, they casting a good light. These mossy tracts consist of a kind of moorish boggy earth, and are distinguished into white, grey, and black, from the colour of the turf. The white mosses are composed of the leaves, seeds, flowers, stalks, and roots of herbs, plants and shrubs. The grey consist of the same substances in a higher degree of putrefaction; and the black only differ by their perfect putrefaction. The grey is harder and more ponderous than the white; and the black is closer and more bituminous than either. Square pieces of these mosses are cut out in the shape of bricks, and being laid in the sun to dry, are then called turfs, and used for fuel.

CHESHIRE is remarkable for the number of gentlemen, by whom it is inhabited, and few of the considerable estates are without parks. The two forests of Macclesfield and Delamere, are extensive

extensive and woody. This county has quarries in which mill stones are dug, nearly equal to those brought from France.

Very large quantities of fine cheese are made in this county, which is esteemed the best in England, insomuch that it is computed the inhabitants export yearly to London, 14000 tons, to Bristol and York, down the Severn and Trent 8000 tons more, besides great quantities shipped at Chester and Liverpool for Ireland and Scotland. The commodities besides cheese and salt already mentioned, are corn, cattle, sheep, fish, particularly salmon, which is very fine, fowls and other articles of provision.

This county contains seven hundreds, in which are the city of Chester, and 12 market towns, viz. Nantwich, Middlewich, Northwich, Macclesfield, Congleton, Malpas, Frodsham, Knutsford, Altringham, Halton, Sandbach, and Stockport. It has 86 parishes, 24000 houses, and near 164000 inhabitants; it is in the province of York, and diocese of Chester, and sends four members to parliament, two for the county, and two for the city of Chester.

On entering this county by the road from Shrewsbury you pass by MALPAS, which lies about 2 mile on the south side of the road to Chester, and 157 miles north west of London. This town is supposed to take it's name from the bad roads that were formerly to be met with in it's neighbourhood (*malo passus*). It is situated on an eminence, in the southern extremity of the county not far from the Dee; and consists of three streets well paved, besides some smaller outlets. The church, a venerable old building, stands in the highest part of the town, and the rectory is so very considerable in value, that there are constantly two rectors appointed to it, who officiate

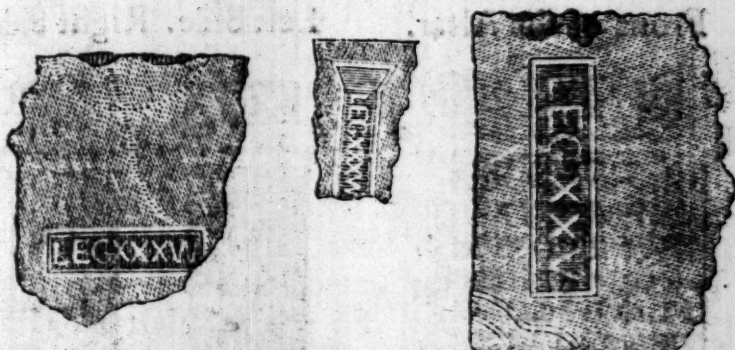
alternately. There was formerly a castle here, which is now demolished; but there is still a grammar school, and an hospital founded by Sir Randolph Brereton. This place gives the title of viscount to the earl of Cholmondeley. The market is on Mondays, and there are three fairs, on March 25, July 25, and December 8, for cattle, linnen, wollen cloaths, hard ware, and pedlary.

CHESTER, frequently called *West-Chester*, on account of its western situation, is a city of great antiquity, situated forty miles north by west of Shrewsbury, thirty seven south-west of Manchester, and 185 north west of London; its present name it undoubtedly received from *Castra*, the Latin name for a Camp, the Roman legions having frequently encamped in its neighbourhood, and particularly the twentieth legion, named *Victrix*, was placed here by Galba. This opinion is fully proved by the inscriptions that have been found here.

The many pieces of antiquity found in and near this city, confirm us in the opinion, that it was of great note in the time of the Romans, and it has been probably inferred from a coin of Geta's, inscribed, COL. DIVANA LEG. XX VICT. that Chester was made a Roman colony by Geta, when he was left to take care of the southern parts of Britain, at the time his father, the emperor Severus, and his brother Caracalla, were advancing into Caledonia. Some Roman bricks were also found here, marked with the name of the above-mentioned legion, but none of them were entire: two of them are represented in the following cuts.

In

Roman Bricks.



In digging some vaults about forty years ago, for Mr. alderman Bennet of this city, several Roman bricks were found, but few of them had inscriptions, and one only was nearly compleat. Of this we have annexed a cut.



This brick is about an inch thick, and has an edge turned upon each side about an inch broad, raised an inch above the inner surface of the brick. The inscription in the middle consists as usual, of raised letters on a depressed plane.

A very curious altar was discovered in the year 1653, in Forest-street in Chester, of the various parts of which we have annexed delineations.

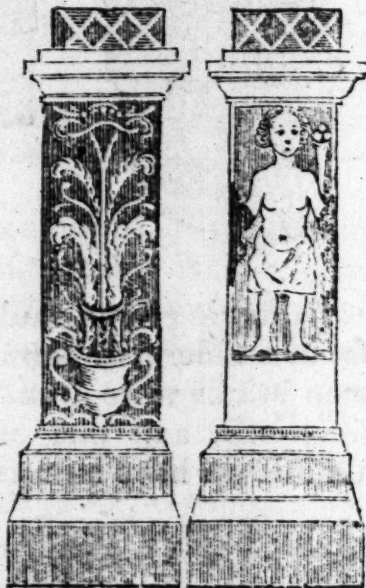
No. 1. The *Cotyla*.



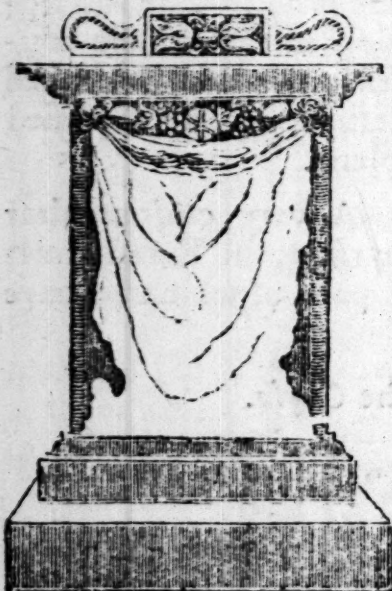
No. 2.
Front of the Altar.



No. 3. No. 4.
Left Side. Right Side.



No. 5.
Back of the Altar.



No. 6.



This altar was found in digging for a cellar in the house of one Mr. Heath. It lay with the inscription downward, upon a stone two feet square, supposed to have been the pedestal: the foundation lay deep and broad, consisting of many large stones. The earth about it was solid, but of several colours, and some ashes mixed with it. About the foundation were discovered, signs of a sacrifice, viz. the bones, horns, and heads of several animals, as the ox, roe-buck, and others; with these were found two coins. The first was brass, and had on one side, IMP. CAES. VESP. AUG. COS. III. and the face of the emperor. On the reverse, VICTORIA AUGUSTI S. C. and a winged victory standing. The other was copper, and had on the first side, FL. CONSTANTIUS NOB C. and the face of Constantius. On the reverse, GENIO POPULI ROMANI. A genius standing, holding a bowl used in sacrifices, in the right hand, and a cornucopia in the left. On the left side of the monument was a flower pot; on the top a *cotyla* or cavity, in the bottom of which was a young face; but who it was intended to represent, is uncertain: on the back ornaments which Horsely calls a curtain with festoons on the top. On the right side, a genius standing with a cornucopia in his left hand, the right hand being cut off by the workmen in digging it up. Horsely reads the inscription on the abovementioned altar, as follows.

*Pro salute Dominorum nostrorum invictissimorum
Augustorum Genio Loci Flavius Longus Tribunus
Militum Legionis vicesimæ victricis et Longinus
filius ejus domo Samosata votum solverunt.*

To this twentieth legion stationed at Chester; Horsely rather chuses to give the name of Valens than Valeria; we are however, inclined to approve most of the latter reading.

That this legion had some other additional name besides that of *Victrix*, is confirmed by another altar found also at Chester, and now preserved at Oxford among the Arundelian marbles.

See No. 6, in the preceding page of cuts.

To the inscription on this altar, Mr. Horsely has affixed the following reading. *Jovi optimo maximo Tanaro. Titus Elupius Galeria (tribu) Praefens Guntia primipilus (vel praefectus) legionis viceffimae valentis victricis Commodo et Laterano Consulibus votum solvit libens merito.* Mr. Horsely thinks the name here is Titus Elupius Praefens, and that Guntia denotes his town or country; but though Dr. Gale, when he published his *Ant. Itin.* conceived it should be read Praefes Gunitae, he afterwards altered his opinion; for in a manuscript note of his in our possession, he suggests that it should be read Gunia. Gunia Civitas Syriae. v. Fabretti inscrip. p. 338.

In June 1729, another Roman altar, or rather the fragments of one, was found in digging a vault for a wine cellar for one Mr. Dyson, in Watergate, in Chester. The stone of which it consists, is thought to be a kind of slate of a blueish colour, which comes from the Isle of Man. It is about an inch and an half thick, and has on it the remains of an inscription to which no reading has as yet been assigned. It is very imperfect, and the fourth line, which probably contained the proprietor's name, seems to have been designedly erased with a chissel.

There are also in Chester some considerable remains of a Roman Hypocaust. In Bridge's street, we are told by Horsley, on the south side of the Feathers stairs, adjoining to a cellar in the east, is a low room, the figure of which is a regular oblong. The roof is flat, and supported by several small pillars of stone, about two feet high:

Over

Over each pillar is a Roman tile, near two feet square, and about three inches thick; each of these tiles has a small hole or holes through it, about six inches distance from one another; the outside of the tiles and holes is black, as if smoaked, and the floor is of rough stone and cement. Whether this piece of antiquity is still to be seen entire, we have had no opportunity of enquiring.

Chester was by Ptolemy called *Deonna* or *Devana*, by Antoninus *Deva*, by the Britons *Caerlegion*, *Caerleon vaur*, *Caerleon ar Dufyr Dwy*, and by way of pre-eminence *Caer*---The Saxons knew it by the name of *Legeacester*.

Galba the emperor settled here the twentieth legion, called *Victrix*, as above mentioned, under the command of Titus Vinius to be a barrier and check to the *Ordovices*, who growing too headstrong for him, Titus Vespasian made Julius Agricola their lieutenant.

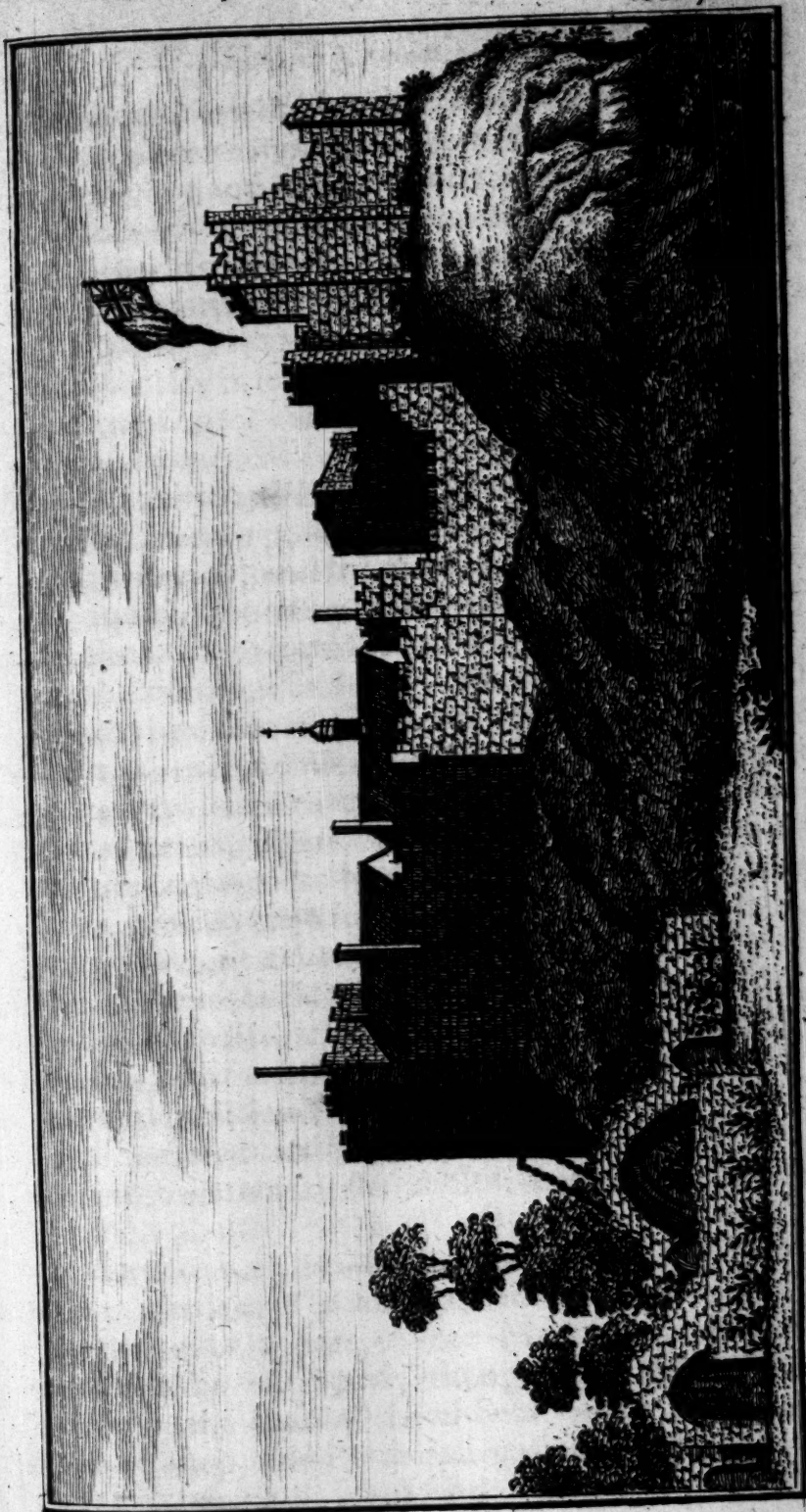
King Edgar triumphed here over the British princes, by causing Hennadius king of Scotland, Malcolm king of Northumberland, and Macon king of Man, and the isles, with all the princes of Wales, being in number eight, to row him like bargemen up the river Dee.

This city is of a square form, surrounded with a wall two miles in compass, which affords delightful walks, and is said to have been built by Edelfleda a noble Mercian lady, in the year 908.

There are in Chester nine churches, one of which is the cathedral, having the parish church in the south isle, dedicated to St. Werburg, the others are dedicated to St. John, St. Peter, the Trinity, St. Michael, St. Bridget, St. Olave, St. Mary, and St. Martin. On the north side of the city are the cathedral, the bishop's palace, and

and the prebendaries houses. The two principal streets intersect each other at right angles, pointing towards the four cardinal points, and forming of course an exact cross. The four gates are placed one at each end of the streets, and on the south side of a rocky hill, partly surrounded by the river Dee, stands the castle, a place of considerable strength.

This castle, of which an engraved plate is annexed, is a stately pile, having a tower bearing the name of Julius Cæsar, and a noble hall, where the palatine court and assizes are kept twice in the year; with commodious accommodations for the judges of assize, and a convenient hall for the prince's exchequer court, and a prison for the county. A garrison is always kept here, and it has a governor, lieutenant governor, master gunner, and other inferior officers. Leading to the castle, is a bridge of twelve arches over the Dee, and at each end of the bridge is a gate, over one of which is a tower, containing mills for raising water to supply the city. The construction of the houses in Chester is very remarkable, they are in general large and spacious, but have what the inhabitants call rows before them; these are a kind of piazzas even with the first floors, in which passengers may walk from one part of the town to the other without being exposed to the weather, and at proper distances there are steps to descend into the street. These rows, Dr. Stukely thinks, are the remains of the Roman porticoes. This manner of building is very inconvenient, and particularly it makes the shops which are behind the piazzas very dark and close. Where the two principal streets intersect each other, which is nearly in the center of the city, there is a spacious area called the *Pentise*; in which is the town house, with an exchange,



The North West View of Chester Castle.



exchange, a neat building, supported by columns thirteen feet high, of one stone each. Chester is a county and hundred within itself, and is governed by a mayor, recorder, 24 aldermen, two sheriffs, and forty common council men. It being incorporated by Henry the Third, who granted it great privileges.

This city is supposed to have had a castle in very ancient times, and it is certain some authors mention the castle of Chester during the times of the Saxons and Danes; therefore, tho' that which is now standing, is said to have been built by Hugh Lupus, earl of the county, soon after the Conquest, we may rather presume that he only repaired it, or perhaps he might have rebuilt it on the old foundation.---There is not the least doubt, but that this city was considerable in the time of the Romans, of which there cannot be better evidence than the vast vaults and foundations, coins, altars, pavements, and other antiquities known to be Roman, which have been from time to time found here. In the beginning of the present century, there was discovered in an old ruinous building called the Chapter, a skeleton, supposed to have been the remains of Hugh Lupus; the bones were very fresh and in their natural position; they were wrapped in leather and inclosed in a stone coffin; the legs were bound together at the ancles, and the string was entire.

Chester was, before the end of the seventh century, the seat of a bishop whose pastoral care extended over a part of the Mercian dominions, and for the most part, though not always, this church and that of Litchfield, were under the same bishop, and it was indeed at length united to the bishoprick of Litchfield. Bishop Peter, who governed the see of Litchfield some time after
the

the conquest, quitted that city, and continued to reside in St. John's church in Chester, till his death, which happened in 1102, and there he was buried. However his successor, bishop Robert left Chester, and made the rich monastery of Coventry one of his cathedrals, yet after this time, several bishops of Litchfield and Coventry writ themselves, and were written by others, bishops of Chester. Giraldus Cambrensis, who was about the year 1200, bishop elect of St. Davids, says, that the ancient collegiate church of St. John, above mentioned, was founded by king Ethelred, in the year 689; but it is more probable that it was rebuilt in the year 906, together with the city by Ethelred, who was then earl of Mercia; for within a short time afterwards, there was in Chester a celebrated church or monastery, dedicated to him, which in the succeeding century was repaired by earl Leofric, and was endowed with houses and lands when the Norman Conqueror's survey was made. At this church, were, till the suppression of monastries, a dean and seven prebendaries or canons, seven vicars, and other inferior officers; yet in the reign of Henry VIII. after various reprisals, the annual revenue of it amounted only to 27l. 17s. 4d.

There was very early in the Saxon times, a religious house, probably a nunnery, in this city, dedicated to St. Peter and St. Paul; to this house the remains of St. Werburg were brought, as to a place of safety, from Heanburgh, or Hanbury, in Staffordshire, in the year 875, two hundred years after she was buried. She is said to have been the daughter of Walferus, the first Christian king of Mercia; and from this princess, the church of St. Peter and St. Paul was called St. Werburg's. This religious house was soon after totally ruined by the intestine wars which then raged in the kingdom,

kingdom, but was rebuilt by Edelfleda, and liberally endowed by king Edmund, king Edgar, earl Leofric and other benefactors, in honour of St. Werburg, for secular canons. However, in the year 1093, the celebrated Anselm, afterwards archbishop of Canterbury, instigated Hugh Lupus to expel the canons, and establish in their stead, an abbot of Benedictine monks, from Bec in Normandy, in whose possession the church of St. Werburg continued till the general dissolution of monasteries, in the 33d year of Henry VIII. who restored the foundation to a dean and six prebends, naming it the church of Christ and the Blessed Virgin; and he also once more made Chester the seat of a bishop. When the monastery was dissolved, its yearly revenues amounted to 1003l. 5s. 11d.

In the neighbourhood of St. John's church above-mentioned, there was a monastery dedicated to the Blessed Virgin, valued at the suppression at 66 l. 18s. 4d. per annum; and there was also in this city before the year 1162, a monastery dedicated to St. Michael, as appears by a charter of Henry II. to the canons of Norton.

In the parish of St. Martin were two houses, one of Carmelites or White-friars, founded in the year 1729, by Thomas Stadham, gentleman, and a house of black, or preaching friars, founded by a bishop of Litchfield. In the parish of the holy Trinity, was a house of grey, or Franciscan friars, supposed to be as ancient as the time of Henry III. who began his reign October 19. 1216. Besides those already mentioned, there was without the north gate, an ancient hospital, which being endowed with great privileges, was originally a sanctuary, dedicated to St. John the Baptist; it consisted, at the suppression, of a chaplain and six poor brethren, and its revenue was only 13l. 7s. 10d. per annum. The

The city of Chester hath undergone various misfortunes; it was first almost entirely demolished by Egfrid, king of Northumberland, and afterwards by the Danes, yet was it soon repaired by Edelfleda governess of the Mercians, inso-much that in the time of William the Conqueror, when the great survey of England was taken, the earls who had all the city, except what belonged to that bishop, paid gelt or tribute for fifty hides of land, forty houses, and seven mint-masters.

About the year 942, after the death of Athelstan, in the beginning of the reign of Edmund, a great battle was fought near this city. Anlaff, son of Sithrie the Dane, king of Northumberland, having been defeated by king Athelstan in the battle of Brunenburg, retired into Ireland, but when Edmund, a youth of seventeen or eighteen years of age, ascended the throne, Anlaff borrowing some troops of Olaus king of Norway, invaded Northumberland, and having got possession of York, ravaged great part of Mercia. Edmund was not idle, but soon assembled to stop his progress. The two kings meeting near Chester, a great battle ensued, which lasted a whole day, but at night, neither party could boast of the least advantage, inso-much that it was determined to renew the engagement on the succeeding day; but Odo and Walston, the archbishops of Canterbury and York, laboured so earnestly to procure a peace, that a treaty was begun that very evening, and concluded by break of day. By this treaty, Edmund was obliged to give up to the Danes, all the country lying north of the Roman highway, called Watling-street, which divided England almost into two equal Parts, running from North Wales, to the most southern parts of Kent, quite to the sea.

This

This city declared for Charles I. under Lord Byron, in the time of the civil wars; and afterwards for Charles II. under Sir George Booth. Besides the transactions abovementioned, which happened at Chester, it is also remarkable for some other particulars: in the days of king Arthur, grammar, philosophy, and the learned languages were taught here. Cadway and Cadwan, two British kings, having defeated the Saxons, were crowned in this city, and a parliament was by the former held here. Also, the ceremony of the coronation of king Ethelwolf was performed here, and it is said, that Henry IV. emperor of Germany, who had married Maud, grand daughter to William the Conqueror, and had in the course of his reign imprisoned his father, the pope and the cardinals, withdrew himself from the world, and lived a hermit unknown at Chester for ten years; but death approaching, he discovered himself: he lies buried here.

There are two weekly markets in Chester, on Wednesdays and Saturdays, and three annual fairs, namely, the first Thursday in Feb. for cattle; July 5th, and Octob. 10th, for cattle and Irish linnen (of which prodigious quantities are sold, it being customary for the London and Dublin traders to meet here), cloaths, hardware, hops, drapery goods, and Manchester wares. Chester gives the title of earl to his royal highness the prince of Wales.

At *Broughton*, just without the east gate of the city, was an alms-house for poor beggars, so early as the year 1309.

We must not quit the article of Chester without observing, that upon a rock in a field on the south side of the river, beyond Chester bridge, is an image of the goddess Pallas, of which the following

lowing cut is a representation. It is very much decayed, but the warlike dress of the goddess, and the owl on the top of her quiver are very visible.



In this place, says tradition, formerly stood the palace of the warlike king Edgar.

Samuel Molyneux, the son of the celebrated William Molyneux was born in this city, in July 1683; and educated with great care by his father, upon whose death, he was put under the management of his uncle, an excellent scholar and physician at Dublin, who executed his trust so well in his nephew's improvement, that our ingenious youth soon advanced himself to be secretary to king George I. while prince of Wales. Astronomy being his favourite study, he projected many schemes for the advancement of it, and took particular pains in his attempts towards the perfection of telescopes. In the midst of these studies, being appointed a commissioner of the admiralty, he became so engaged in public affairs, that he had no further leisure for philosophical enquiries. He died Jan. 3, 1670.

POULTON, is a small village, about five miles to the south east of Chester. At this place an abbey was founded and endowed for Cistercian monks,

monks, in the year 1153, by Robert, brother to Ranulph second earl of Chester; but being subject to the incursions of the Welsh, it was afterwards removed to Dieulacres in Staffordshire.

SHOTWICK, is about six miles north west of Chester, in the road to Park-gate. Here was formerly a castle surrounded with a park, belonging to the crown, but the castle is now in ruins.

PARK-GATE, is about thirteen miles north west of Chester, and is remarkable for being the place where passengers bound to Dublin take shipping. In this neighbourhood the stones buphthalmos, or ox-eyes, have been frequently dug up.

HYLE LAKE, farther to the north west, at the extremity of the peninsula, nearly opposite to Hilbree, is remarkable on account of its being the place where duke Schomberg encamped, when he went to reduce Ireland, after the revolution, and from whence the forces which followed him embarked.

SANGHALL, a village a few miles north west of Chester, in the peninsula, is rendered remarkable by a woman inhabitant, who being seventy-two years of age in 1668, had two horns which grew out of her head on the right side, a little above the ear. An excrescence in this part of her head, somewhat resembling a wen, made its appearance when she was about 28 years old, this when she arrived to sixty years, shot out into two horns, each about three inches long; in five years they dropped, and two more succeeded, and these after four years being also cast, were replaced by others.

EASHAM, is a village situated on the river Mersey, at the eastern end of the peninsula, about 7 miles north east of Chester. The extent of the parish.

parish is in length between three and four miles, and in breadth about two miles. Besides the village of Easham, where the church stands, there are in this parish six hamlets, namely, two Suttons, Childer-thornton, Hoston, Pooltown, and Whitby. The parish is level, and the lands produce barley, wheat and oats, and there is much cheese made here. Marl and lime are the chief manure, the soil being chiefly deep clay, tho' the rock as you approach the river, lies near the surface. Great damage was done in this parish, chiefly to the estates of Sir Francis Pool and Mr. Bennet, by the inundation of the Mersey some years since. The great road between Chester and Liverpool passes through here, there being a ferry over the Mersey to Liverpool, which is reckoned five miles down the water. The church consists of a nave, two side isles, and a large chancel at the west; and has a steeple, which consists of a tower with a spire upon it. The church and steeple are said to be the work of the famous Inigo Jones, but the spire being become ruinous, was taken down and rebuilt about the year 1752. The only seats in the parish are Hooton-hall, belonging to the Stanley's, Roman Catholics, a baronet's family, from whom are descended the earls of Derby. In the hall of this house are some antique pictures, said to represent some of the old earls of Chester. The other seat is Pool-hall, belonging to a baronet of the same name: this family was also Roman Catholic, till Sir Francis Pool, late member for Lewes in Sussex, embraced the protestant religion. The living is a vicarage worth about 50 l. per annum, in the gift of the dean and chapter of Chester. There is a neat vicarage house built by the present incumbent. The vicar hath all the fish taken in the river Mersey within the extent

tent of his parish, on Sundays and Fridays. At Childon-thornton is a charity-school worth about 15l. a year to the master, who is elected by presentees. A kind of red stones, much used in building, is dug up in a wood near the river Mersey.

At BROMBOROUGH, in this peninsula, on the banks of the Mersey, there was formerly a monastery founded by Edelfleda, which going however soon to decay, the church situated above a mile to the north west of the college, was appropriated to the abbey of Chester, and at the dissolution, was made a part of the endowment of the dean and chapter.

The church only consists of two isles and a chancel, with a wooden steeple at the west end. The vicar of Easham is allowed by the dean and chapter of Chester, 5l. per annum, to preach here once a month, he has also the surplice-fees, and queen Ann's bounty. One township belonging to this parish, called Brimstage, is entirely separated from the rest. The soil is nearly the same as that of Easham, by which it is bounded on the south. In the middle of the village are the remains of an old cross, on which a dial is now placed. There is a bridge built over Bromborough pool, which is formed by an influx of the waters of the river Mersey, and together with the adjacent woods and rocks, a water mill, and a serpentine current of fresh water, make an agreeable landscape. There is a petrifying well in the town worth notice.

At BIRKENHEAD, in the same peninsula, about the year 1189, a priory for sixteen black canons was founded by Hamon de Massey third bishop of Durham, and dedicated to St. Mary and St. James. He endowed it with lands, and granted to the prior, monks, and their successors,

cessors, power and liberty, upon a vacancy, to chuse their own prior from among themselves: its annual value at the dissolution was 90 l. 13 s.

At **HILLBREE** or **HILBURY**, a small island at the south western point of the peninsula, near the mouth of the river Dee, there was, it is said, a convent of Benedictine monks, a cell to Chester, dedicated to the virgin Mary.

On entering the county by the London road, from Stone, you come to Namptwich, from whence one road extends eastward to Chester, and another northward to Middlewich, Northwich, &c.

NANTWICH, **NAMPTWICH**, or **WICH-MALBANE**, as it is called in old deeds, is one of the most flourishing towns in the county. It is situated 192 miles north of London, and 20 south east of Chester. It is populous, has a great trade, and is situate in the Vale Royal, on the banks of the Weaver. This town was twice burnt down, viz. in July 1438, and in December 1583; but after the last fire, it was rebuilt in so regular and handsome a manner, by means of a collection made throughout the nation, as rather to be advantaged by its misfortune. Very large quantities of the best salt is made at Nantwich, and the cheese in the neighbourhood, equals (if not surpasses) any which the world produces. The streets are regular, having many handsome houses in them, and the church is in form like a cathedral, a steeple rising in the middle of the cross. It derives many advantages from its being so great a thorough fare in the road to Chester, and from its very considerable market for corn and cattle, which is held every Saturday. In the year 1737, this town had a market-house, which was then a very handsome building, and over it was an elegant room, in which

which the magistrates did business; but it suddenly fell to the ground, and has not yet been rebuilt. The fair days, three in number, are March 26, September 4, and December 15, for cattle, horses, cloaths, flannels, hard ware, pewter, and bedding. Before we quit this article of Nantwich, we must observe, that there was formerly an ancient hospital in it, dedicated to St. Nicholas, and there are, at this time, two charity-schools, one for forty boys, and the other for thirty girls. Hugh, Lord Cholmondeley, was created by King William, Baron of Wich-Malbane, alias Nantwich, which title is still in the family.

In the time of the civil wars, after the truce was concluded in Ireland, King Charles the first caused all the English troops, which could be spared, to be sent over to him. These troops landed in Flintshire, and took Hawarden-Castle, after which they marched into Cheshire, and took Beeston-Castle, Northwich, Crew-house, Doddington-house, Acton church, and, at length, under the command of Lord Byron, besieged Nantwich, January 15, 1643-4. Three days after, the place was attempted by storm, at five different places, but the besiegers were every where repulsed, with the loss of many men. On the 21st of the month, however, Lord Fairfax, who had advanced to relieve the town, entirely routed the Irish army, consisting of 3000 infantry, which were almost all slain or taken prisoners; and of 1800 horse, most of them escaped by flight, but were so dispersed that they could be of no farther service to the King. This engagement, for the time it lasted, was said to be as sharp as any that had before happened in those wars.

At Baddington, in this neighbourhood, was an alms-house for poor lepers, so early as 1283.

CHOL-

CHOLMONDELEY is a village about six miles south-west of Nantwich, but it is only noted for giving the title of Earl to a noble family of the same name.

MIDDLEWICH takes its name from its situation between Nantwich and Northwich, near the river Dee. It is seated six miles from the north of Nantwich, and 158 from London. The town is ancient, well peopled, has a great trade in salt, and is governed by burghesses. The parish is remarkably extensive, comprehending many townships in the neighbourhood, and the church is a large handsome building. It lies in the hundred of Northwich, has a good market on Tuesdays, and two fairs, namely, on Holy Thursday, and July 25, chiefly for the sale of cattle. From this town to Northwich, which lies six miles to the north, there is a road raised very high with gravel, which plainly shews it to have been Roman, and to have been raised for some public use.

At DARNHALL, or DERNHALL, about five miles to the west of Middlewich, Prince Edward, eldest son to Henry III. during his father's reign, began to build an abbey for 100 Cistercian Monks, but, when he ascended the throne, he altered his intentions, and, in the year 1277, founded a stately monastery in the Vale Royal, about five miles to the north; and, about the year 1281, the monks of Darnhall were removed thither, together with some others, from the abbey of Dore, in Herefordshire, to make up the number 100, he having, in a voyage from the Holy Land, vowed to endow an abbey, containing that number of monks, with a sufficient maintainence. Upon this monastery he expended 32,000*l.* besides what was given by his queen Eleanor; yet the building was not finished till the

the year 1330, in the reign of Edward III. the monks being in the mean time much incommoded for want of room. The church was consecrated by the patriarch of Jerusalem, bishop of Durham, and dedicated to Christ, the Virgin Mary, St. Nicholas, and St. Nicholas. At the dissolution, its revenue was valued at 518*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.*

NORTHWICH is a considerable town on the banks of the Weaver, six miles north of Middlewich. Like the two last described places, it furnishes the kingdom with large quantities of salt. Being situated near the middle of the county, the quarter-sessions have often been held here. About the latter end of the last, or the beginning of the present century, there were discovered at this place some large mines of rock-salt, which have been wrought ever since; the lumps of salt which they produce, being sent to salt-works by the sea-side, where they are dissolved, and afterwards, by evaporation, made into salt fit for culinary uses. The sight of these caverns cannot but give pleasure to the curious traveller. You descend to the depth of about 50 yards, by a bucket, when you are suddenly struck with the view of what we can compare to nothing but a subterranean cathedral; the roof is of arched crystal, and the pillars, of the same materials, being transparent, glitter with the reflection of the numerous lights which the labourers require to enable them to go on with their work. These mines extend under several acres of land. A weekly market is held at Northwich on Fridays; and there are two annual fairs, namely, August 2, and December 6, for cattle, drapery, goods, and bedding. A free grammar-school here was founded and endowed by Mr. John Dains, parson of St. Bartholomew's, in London.

At RUDHEATH, to the south-east of Northwich, there was formerly an asylum for criminals, where they were permitted to remain in safety a year and a day; but this privilege, on account of its being so much abused, was taken away long before the Reformation.

Sir John Birkinhead, a famous political author of the seventeenth century, was the son of Richard Birkinhead, of this town, a sadler, and who also kept an alehouse. He was entered a servitor of Oriel-College, and afterwards became amanuensis to archbishop Laud, by whose interest he was made probationer of All-soul's College, in Oxford, where he continued to reside, and soon after began to manage a controversy in favour of the royal cause, against the disaffected, for which reason he was expelled the university, when they came into power. Upon retiring to London, he received the name, among his own party, of the *Loyal Poet*, and suffered several imprisonments, which tended to sharpen his spleen, without abating his courage. Upon the restoration, he again came into favour, and was made master of the Faculty-Office, was knighted, and promoted to be Master of Requests. He died at Westminster, December 4, 1679, and was interred at St. Martin's in the Fields, leaving to his executors a large and curious collection of pamphlets upon all subjects.

DELAMERE FOREST lies between Chester, Northwich, and Frodsham. It has been noted for breeding red and fallow-deer, many of which used formerly to be sent up to London for the King's table. The poor inhabitants in the neighbourhood, have the benefit of the pasture in the valleys, the wood on the hills, the fern on the plains, the fish and fowls in the meers, and the turf which may be dug for firing.

Within

Within this forest the Mercian lady Edelfleda, already mentioned, built a city, called Eadesburg, that is, the *Happy Town*; but now there are no remains of it, except a handsome house, inhabited by the chief foresters, who have that office by inheritance. It is called, the *Chamber of the Forest*. This forest is remarkable for giving the title of Baron to Sir George Booth, who, for his eminent services to King Charles II. was created Lord Delamere, the year after the restoration. His son joined King William soon after his landing, for which he was created Earl of Warrington, and, upon his decease, it fell to a collateral branch in the present Lord Delamere.

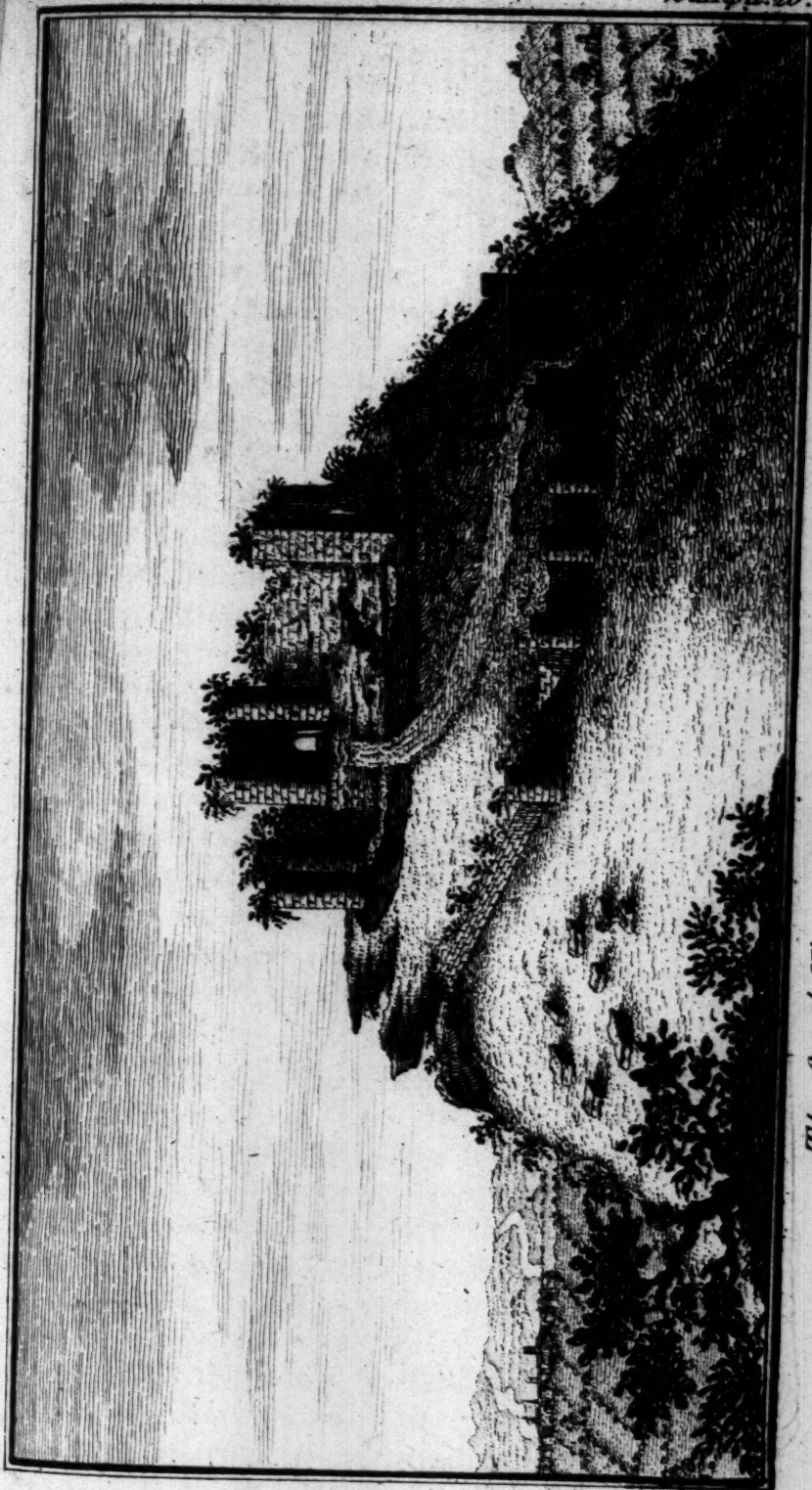
In this neighbourhood is FINBOROUGH, now a small village, which is said to have been once a considerable town, built by the same noble lady.

OUVER stands at the eastern extremity of Delamere Forest, and is remarkable for being governed by a mayor, and having a church that is lawless, which privileges were probably derived from the city of Eadesburg above-mentioned.

From Nantwich a road extends easterly to Chester, and two miles to the south of this road is BUNBURY, a village about ten miles nearly west from Nantwich. In the parish church belonging to this place, Sir Hugh Calverly, Knt. about the year 1386, founded a college, in honour of St. Boniface, for a master and six secular canons. At the time of the dissolution, the foundation consisted of a dean, five vicars, and two choristers, and the revenues were estimated at 48*l.* 2*s.* 8*d.* *per annum*.

About a mile and a half north of Bunbury, is BEESTON, a village in the same hundred, only noted for its castle, which stands on a high hill, about two miles to the south-west of the street. It was built by Ranulph, the sixth Earl of Chester,

ter after the conquest, who began his government in the year 1180, and died in 1232. This castle, of the remains of which an engraved view is annexed to this work, was of very considerable extent, having lofty walls and strong towers. The chief of these towers was supplied with water from a well which is supposed to have been above 160 yards deep, for it was within these few years 91 yards in depth, though half filled up. The castle is at this time in a ruinous condition, yet Leland, in some verses he wrote on it, says, that if old prophecies are to be believed, it will, in some future period, recover its original splendour. Near this place are many traces of ditches, and other military works, probably made in the civil wars, when this castle was besieged by the parliamentary forces under colonel Jones, who, with adjutant-general Louthian, suddenly drew off a party of 1300 men, and attempted to surprize Chester, in which they partly succeeded; but not having sufficient forces to become masters of the rest of the city, they were content to keep what they had got, in expectation that Sir William Brereton would bring them a supply. The king, however, at that time, expecting a body of troops from Ireland which could land conveniently only at Chester, immediately marched to dislodge the enemy, but being closely followed by Poyntz, the parliament's commander, who overtook him on Routon-Heath, within about two miles of Chester, he was under a necessity of facing his pursuers: The fight was at first pretty hot, but as the king had 5000, and Poyntz only 2000 men, the latter were briskly repulsed, and put into some disorder; but, in the mean time, just as the king thought himself entirely victorious, Jones and Louthian came from Chester, and attacked him with 800 fresh men, falling upon his



The South View of Beefton Castle near Chester.

1897



h
f
h
.
I
C
d
T
e
H
w
S
h

his rear, and thereby gave Poyntz time to rally his men, and renew the engagement; which, in the end, terminated in the defeat of the king's little army, with the loss of 600 men killed, and 1000 taken prisoners. In this engagement, the lord Bernard Steward, earl of Litchfield, and some other noble officers, were killed, and it was with the utmost difficulty that the king himself, with the shattered remains of his army, escaped to Denbigh castle, in Wales.

About two miles and a quarter from Beeston, stands **TARPERLY**, a village situated on the edge of Delamere Forest, in the midway between Nantwich and Chester, and about twelve miles from each. It is a great thoroughfare, and consists chiefly of one street, about half a mile in length. Here it is that the sheriff's tuns and hundred courts are usually kept. It has a good old church, and the rectory is valuable. There are four annual fairs kept here, on May-Day, Monday after St. Bartholomew, August 24, and December 10, for cattle and pedlars ware.

At **BARROW**, a small village on the west side of Delamere Forest, two miles north of the road from Nantwich to Chester, there was a preceptory of the Knights Hospitallers of St. John of Jerusalem.

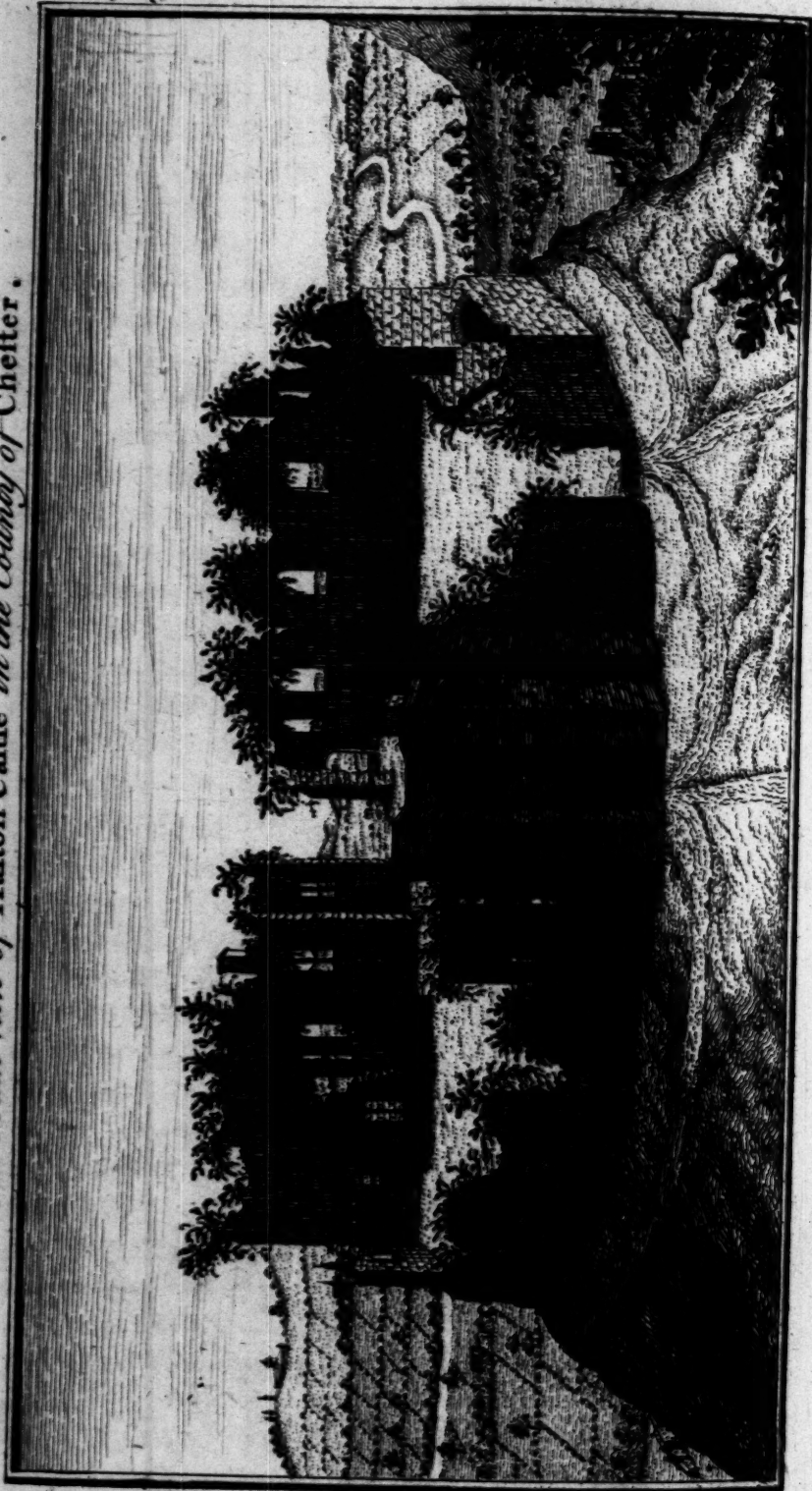
TARVIN stands near the western extremity of Delamere Forest, about eight miles to the east of Chester, in the road to Northwich, at a small distance beyond the parting of the two roads. The church belonging to this parish is a noble edifice, and, though it is only a vicarage, the living is, nevertheless, of considerable value. It was formerly a market-town, being made so by Sir John Savage, the lord of it, but the market has long been disused.

In the road from Chester to Warrington, in Lancashire, is FRODSHAM, a sea-port town on the Weaver, 11 miles north-east of Chester, and 186 north-west of London. It has a stone bridge over the river, and a tolerable harbour. At the west end of the town are the ruins of an old castle, formerly the seat of the Savages, earls Rivers. The church stands at some small distance from the town, near Frodsham-hill, the highest in the county, on which there used, in ancient times, to be a beacon. The market here is on Wednesdays, and there are two annual fairs, viz. on May 4, and August 21, for cattle and pedlars ware. In this neighbourhood, on a rising ground, near the river Mersey, are the ruins of a religious house, probably deserted on account of the badness of its situation; and also near this place we find the small remains of Stanlew, a monastery, founded by John, constable of Chester, and baron of Halton, in the year 1172, for forty Cistercian monks. But the monks being incommoded by frequent floods, removed to Whalley-Abbey, in Lancashire; four monks, however, remained here, so that it continued to be a small cell till the dissolution.

RUNCORN is a village on the river Mersey, about three miles north of Frodsham. There was a religious house here, said to have been founded by Edelfleda. And at this place William, the son of Nigel, constable of Chester, founded a priory for regular Augustine canons, in the year 1133; but this priory was afterwards, in the year 1210, removed to Norton in this neighbourhood. It was there dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and endowed with several lands in the counties of Nottingham, Leicester, and Oxford, which were confirmed to the priory by Roger, the son of William. They had besides granted



The South View of Halton Castle in the County of Chester.



granted to them, among other privileges, two deer yearly, on the feast of the Assumption, out of the park at Halton castle, which lies in the parish of Runcorn. Edward the Black Prince was a great benefactor to Norton priory, giving twenty three messuages, six cottages, and two gardens, lying in Coventry, and part of his manor of Cheylemore to it. Its annual value at the dissolution was 180l. 7s. 6d. Runcorn is now but a small village, consisting of a few scattered cottages, but it has still a handsome parish church.

- HALTON, or HAULTON, that is, *high town*, is situated on the road, about three miles north of Frodsham, and is supposed to have received its name from its being seated on a hill. The castle here, if we may judge from its ruins, was magnificent and spacious.

This castle was built by Hugh Lupus, earl of Chester, who gave it, with the barony, to Nigel, a Norman, on condition that he should be constable of Chester. From his posterity it came to the crown, and is a considerable member of the dutchy of Lancaster, which maintains a large jurisdiction in the country round it, by the name of Halton Fee, or the Honour of Halton, having a court of record, prison, and many other privileges within itself. At this castle, of which we have, for the satisfaction of our readers, annexed an engraved plate, there is annually, about Michaelmas, a law-day, kept by the officers of the dutchy of Lancaster, and a court is held once a fortnight, to determine all matters within the jurisdiction of the fee. Felons, however, are always carried to the sessions at Chester, to receive their sentence. A market is kept here on Saturdays, which the inhabitants claim by prescrip-

tion, and there is one annual fair, at old Lady-day, April 5.

WEVERHAM, a village out of the road, about five miles south-east of Halton, and four miles east of Frodsham, takes its name from its situation, which is on the south bank of the river Weaver. The parish church was formerly a member of the great abbey of Vale Royal. It still holds a great liberty, and has a court and prison, with a large jurisdiction. This was one of the abbey granges, which, in old time, was no mean tenure.

About two miles to the north-west of Weverham, on the other side of the river, and about four miles south-east of Halton, lies DUTTON, noted for having been the estate of a family of the same name, who derive their pedigree from one *Huddard*, a descendant from the earls of Chester. This family has a peculiar authority over all pipers, fiddlers, harpers, and musicians, ever since Ralph collecting together a body of such men, joined Robert Lacey, constable of Chester, his father-in-law, and marching against the Welch forces which were besieging Ranulph the second, earl of Chester, in the castle of Rudhlan, to which he had fled for refuge, after being discomfited in battle, struck them with such terror, that they raised the siege, and left him at liberty to depart.

About three miles east of Warrington in Lancashire, and a little out of the road to Knutsford, lies THELWELL, a village and chapelry, on the south banks of the Mersee. It was formerly a lordship belonging to the Abbey of Norton, though now only a small village. Florilegus tells us it was a walled town, built, or rather repaired, by Edward the Elder, and is, of course, of considerable antiquity. The walls were made

made of trunks of trees pitched into the ground, and fastened together with other materials; in which manner, nearly, the block-houses of North-America are erected by the planters, to defend them against their Indian enemies; but there the ties or fastenings are of the same materials.

In the road which extends from Warrington across Cheshire into Derbyshire, is GREAT BUDWORTH, a village about ten miles east of Halton, and eight south-east of Warrington. It is chiefly remarkable for having three annual fairs, namely, on February 13, April 5, and October 2, for cows, horses, swine, hats, and pedlary.

This road, after extending near four miles farther to the eastward, is crossed by the road from Northwich, which runs north-east to Knutsford.

KNUTSFORD, or KNOTSFORD, which is seated about seven miles to the north-east of Northwich, is supposed to take its name from Canute: It is a very considerable town, and is divided by a small brook into the upper and lower towns. In the first is the parish church, and in the latter a chapel of ease, the market and town-house. The quarter-sessions have been often kept here, and at the latter end of July there are annual races. The market day is on Saturdays, and there are two fairs kept here, namely, on July 10, and November 8, for cattle and drapery goods.

About six miles out of the road to the north-east of Knutsford, is ALTRINCHAM, or ALTRINGHAM, situated on the borders of the county next Lancashire, about nine miles west of Stockport, the same distance east of Warrington, and 176 miles north-west of London. It is a neat little town, having been for some ages under the government of a mayor chosen annually.

It has a weekly market on Tuesdays, and two fairs yearly, on August 5, and November 2, for cattle and drapery goods.

About two miles to the north-east of Knutsford, in the road to Stockport, is **MOBBERLY**, or **MODBERLY**, where Patrick de Modberly, about the year 1206, founded a priory of black canons, and dedicated it to the Virgin Mary, and St. Winifrid; but it was of a short duration, for the founder having only an estate for life in his hands, the endowment reverted, after his death, to the right heirs.

STOCKPORT, or **STOPFORD**, for it has been called by both names, is situated nine miles to the north-east of Knutsford, ten nearly north of Macclesfield, and 160 north-west from London. It stands on the south banks of the Mersey, over which it has a bridge leading into the road to Manchester in Lancashire. This bridge was blown up in the year 1745, to prevent the rebels from making a retreat that way, but has since been rebuilt. On August 21, 1766, a new church was finished, built at the expence of William Wright, which is a great ornament to the place. This town is said to have a chalybeat spring, stronger than that at Tunbridge, and in a free-stone rock the belemnites, or thunder-bolts, have been found. A large market for corn and provisions is held on Fridays, and four fairs are annually kept on March 4, March 25, May 1, and October 25, for cattle and pedlars ware.

On returning back to Knutsford, we find a road extend eastward to **MACCLESFIELD**. This town gives name to a forest on the borders of which it stands, and is a place of great antiquity, situated ten miles to the east of Knutsford. Its buildings are handsome, and the chapel, (for

it has no church, being in Prestbury parish) is a neat edifice, having a gothic tower, with a college, or chantry, for secular priests, adjoining, built about the year 1508, by Thomas Savage, archbishop of York, a native of this place. On the south side of the parochial chapel, is a chapel or oratory, belonging to the Leighs of Lime, and here, on a brasse plate, is the following account of two worthy persons of that family.

*Here lyeth the body of Perkin A Legh
That for king Richard the death did dye
Betrayed for righteousness
And the bones of Sir Peers his sonne
That with king Henry the fifth did wonne
In Paris.*

This Perkin served king Edward the third and the Black Prince his son, in all their wars in France, and was at the battle of Cressy, and had Lyme given him for that service, and after their deaths served king Richard the second, and left him not in his troubles, but was taken with him, and beheaded at Chester by king Henry the fourth. And the said Sir Peers his sonne served king Henry the fifth, and was slain at the battle of Agincourt.

In their memory Sir Peter Legh of Lyme, knight, descended from them, finding the said old verses written upon stone in this chapel, did re-edify this place, Ann. Dom. 1626.

On the same side of the parochial chapel, in an oratory belonging to the Savages, is this copy of a pardon, engraved on a brasse plate.

The pardon for saying V pater nosters, and V aves and a cred. is XXVI thousand yeres and XXVI dayes of pardon.

Mac--

Macclesfield is an old borough, and is governed by a mayor. We find here a free-school, of ancient foundation. There was here formerly a great manufactory of buttons, and, of late years, several silk mills have been erected here. Its other manufactures are mohair, twist, hatbands, and thread. The weekly market is on Mondays, and there are five annual fairs, namely, on May 6, June 22, July 11, October 4, and November 11, for cattle, wool, and cloth. This town gives the title of earl to the family of Parker.

STIPPERLY PARK, belonging to the Leighs of Adlington, in Macclesfield hundred, and about five miles north of Macclesfield, is remarked, by Dr. Leigh, who wrote the natural history of the county, as containing a kind of sheep differing from all others in the kingdom. He supposes them to be natives of the county, and says they are larger than others, being covered rather with hair than wool; each of them has four horns, the two next the neck being erect like goats, but larger, and the other curved, like those of common sheep. These horns sometimes grow, the doctor says, to a very extraordinary size, and he seems to doubt whether they are a distinct species, or might not rather at the first be produced by goats and sheep engendering together; but it must be remembered that mules never propagate their species; by mules we mean any animal produced out of the course of nature, by mixing the breed. The sheep described by the doctor are said to differ in their flesh from mutton, rather resembling in colour and taste the flesh of goats. Adlington above-mentioned, is in the parish of Prestbury, which is the largest parish in the county, having many townships and chapel-ries belonging to it, as Macclesfield, which has already been observed. The rectory is possessed by

by the dean and chapter of Chester as impropriators, the vicarage being in the patronage of the Leighs.

A road extends to the south-east from Macclesfield, that enters the road that leads from Newcastle in Staffordshire across Cheshire, and to the eastward of these roads lies CONGLETON, a considerable town on the borders of Staffordshire, seven miles to the south of Macclesfield. It is governed by a mayor and six aldermen, and has two parochial chapels, Astbury, about two miles to the south-east, being acknowledged as the mother church. Congleton is supposed to have been the *Condate* of Antoninus, though we do not hear of any Roman antiquities being found near it, and for this, and other reasons, Horsey places this station at or near Northwich. The church of Astbury is a handsome pile, with a lofty spire steeple, and the value of the rectory is very considerable, the parish being extensive. The principal manufactory at Congleton is the making of leather gloves; but a silk mill lately erected, employs 700 hands, and is likely to be of great service to the town and neighbourhood. A weekly market is held on Saturdays, and there are annually four fairs, on the Thursday before Shrovetide, May 12, July 5, and July 13, for cattle and pedlars ware.

HOLMES CHAPEL, or CHURCH HOLM, is a village on the above road from Newcastle, about five miles to the east of Middlewich, and six to the west of Congleton. It is seated on the banks of the Dan, over which it has a handsome stone bridge, built about two hundred years ago by John Needham, Esq; and has some trade from the constant passing of travellers.

Two miles to the east of the same road, and about six miles to the south-east of Middlewich,
is

is SANDBACH, a small town, delightfully situated on the banks of the little river Wheelock, which flows with three streams from Mow-cop-hill, near Congleton, and falls into the Dan, not far from this place. The church is a handsome stone building, with a lofty steeple. In the market-place are two stone crosses, elevated on steps, and adorned with images, and the history of the sufferings of Christ carved in relievo. The market is held on Thursdays, and it has two annual fairs, namely on Easter-Tuesday, and the first Thursday after September 10, for black cattle and horses. The ale brewed at this town was formerly in great repute in London, where, about the middle of the last century, it sold for twelve-pence a bottle, but it seems to be entirely supplanted by the Dorchester beer, and the Yorkshire and Welch ales, insomuch that we do not know of any Sandbach ale being now sold in the metropolis.

On the southern borders of the county next to Shropshire, is COMBERMERE, whence springs the river Weaver. Near this mere an abbey of White Monks was founded by Hugh Malbane, in the year 1134, and dedicated to the Virgin Mary and St. Michael. He endowed it with large possessions, and, among other things, with a fourth part of the town of Nantwich, and the tithes of the salt there, and put it under the protection of Ralph, earl of Chester, the chief lord, who confirmed all his grants, and added several privileges, which were again confirmed by king Henry II. in the year 1230. Its annual value at the dissolution was 22*l.* 9*s.* 7*d.*

Cheshire was, in the time of the Romans, one of the five counties which were inhabited by the Cornavii; the other four were Shropshire, Staffordshire, Warwickshire, and Worcestershire.

This

This name of distinction in all probability remained in use till the Romans left the island ; for we find by the *Notitia Provinciarum*, that some troops of the *Cornavii* made a settlement under the latter emperors ; and we may reasonably suppose that they were a martial people, the Romans always keeping strong garrisons in their province, lest they should revolt.

When the Saxons had overpowered the island, during the heptarchy, this county was included in the kingdom of Mercia, and was possessed by the successors of Creda, the founder of that kingdom, about 200 years, till it was invaded and conquered by the Danes, under the reign of *Burthred*. In the year 877, Alfred the Great drove the Danes from Mercia, and made it a province to his kingdom of the West Saxons, constituting Ethelred, who was descended from the Mercian kings, governor of it, after whose death it was governed, for several years, by his widow Edelfleda, often mentioned in the description of this county. She was sister to Edward the Elder, being eldest daughter to the great Alfred by his wife Ailswitha. This county coming again under the command of the Danes, in the reign of Canute, he committed the care of it to Leofric, who was called earl of Cheshire ; his son Algar, and grandson Edwin, succeeded him, but during the government of the latter, it was with the rest of the kingdom, conquered by William the Norman, who gave it first to Gerhord, a Flemish nobleman, who had contributed greatly to his conquest, and afterwards to Hugh Lupus, his nephew, by this tenure, " to hold to him and his heirs, as freely by the sword, as the king held the crown of England." This grant comprehended many privileges and immunities, as by it Cheshire became a county palatine. Towards the

the declension of the Roman empire, the *Palatini* were no more than the officers of the courts of princes; but, in process of time, this title was confined to a superior order of men, namely those who had the management of affairs of state immediately under the king or emperor. Thus those who exercised this sovereignty of jurisdiction in any particular district or province, were termed *Counts Palatine*, and the place where the jurisdiction was exercised, was by way of distinction called a *Palatinate*.

By the above-mentioned grant, *Cheshire* had all the privileges of a palatinate, though the earls took not the title; it had a sovereign jurisdiction within its precincts, and that to a very high degree; for *Hugh Lupus*, as well as several of his successors, convened parliaments, consisting of barons of their own creation, and of their own tenants, who were not bound by the acts passed in the general parliament of the kingdom. This power, which was originally granted for very prudential reasons, that is to say, to enable the earl to repel the incursions of the *Welsh*, or to quell any insurrection of the newly conquered *English*, at length became formidable to the crown, yet did it continue till the reign of *Henry VIII.* who retrenched in several parts, this jurisdiction, making the county not only subordinate to, but dependant on the crown of *England*. Many of their old immunities are, however, still retained, for all pleas of lands and tenements, and all contracts arising within this county, are yet judicially heard and determined within the same, and if any determination in such matters be made out of it, except in cases of error, foreign plea, and foreign voucher, it is void, but cases of felony and treason are determined by the itinerant.

C H E S H I R E. 47

itinerant judges in their circuit, after the ordinary manner.

Raphael Holinshed, an English historian, famous for the chronicles that go under his name, was descended from a family which lived at Bosely in this county, but neither the place nor time of his birth, nor scarcely any other circumstances of his life are known. His chronicles were first published at London in 1577, in two volumes folio, and after in 1587, in three; the two first of which are commonly bound together. Holinshed was not the sole author or compiler of this work, but was assisted in it by several others. The time of our historian's death is unknown, but it appears from his will, which Mr. Hearne has prefixed to an edition of Camden's Annals, that it happened between the years 1578 and 1582.

John Speed, author of the Chronicle, was also a native of this county, and was born at Tarrington, in 1552. He was bred a taylor, and followed, for some time, that mechanic employment, but having a strong turn for literary pursuits, he was enabled, by the generosity of Sir Fulke Greville, to apply to his studies. He made maps of all the counties of England, Scotland, and Ireland. He likewise wrote a history of Great-Britain, and composed the scripture genealogies. He died at London in 1629, and was buried in the church of St. Giles, Cripplegate.

Thomas Egerton, lord high chancellor of England, was the son, (some say the natural son) of Sir Richard Egerton of Ridley, in this county, and born about the year 1540. Having gone through the usual course of academical learning, at Brazen-Nose college in Oxford, he removed to Lincolns-Inn, London, where he applied himself to the study of the law with such uncommon diligence

ligence, that he became, in a little time, a most noted counsellor. Queen Elizabeth, charmed with his rising merit, appointed him first her solicitor-general, then her attorney-general, and afterwards lord keeper of the great seal, and a privy-counsellor. In the first year of king James's reign, he was constituted lord high chancellor of England, and created a peer of the realm, by the title of Lord Ellesmere; and, in the 14th of the same reign, he was advanced to the dignity of a Viscount, by the stile of Viscount Brackley. He was likewise chosen chancellor of the university of Oxford; but this, and all his other high offices, he voluntarily resigned a little before his death, on account of his infirmities. He expired on the 15th of March 1617, and was succeeded in his honours and estates by his second son John, who was created earl Bridgewater. His eldest son, Thomas, died in his life-time.

Sir Thomas Aston, a brave and virtuous gentleman in the reign of king Charles I. was the son of John Aston, of Aston, in this county. He was entered a gentleman-commoner of Brazen-nose college, in Oxford, in 1627, but was soon called home by his relations, and the next year was created a baronet. Upon the approach of the rebellion, he wrote some pieces against the Presbyterians, and was afterwards the chief man in his county that took part with the king. During the civil war, he raised a party of horse for his majesty's service, which was beaten by a party of the rebels, but Sir Thomas escaped with a slight wound. Some time after, he was taken in a skirmish in Staffordshire, and carried prisoner to Stafford, where, endeavouring to make his escape, a soldier spied him, and gave him a blow on the head, which, with other wounds he had a little before received, threw him into a fever, of which he died on the 24th of March, 1645.



C O R N W A L L.

VARIOUS conjectures have been formed relating to the name of this county, some deriving it from the British word *Corn*, signifying a horn, alluding to the two promontories, called the *Land's-End*, and the *Lizard-Point*, and the Saxon word *Wealh*, *strange*, or *Gaul*, a name by which they distinguished the inhabitants of this county, from their resemblance in language, manners, and customs, to the Gauls on the continent, changing the G, according to the German custom, into a W. Others derive the name from *Carn*, the British word for a rock. Some, indeed, are fond of deriving it from *Corineus*, a companion of *Brute*, which is a meer conjecture.

Cornwall is situated at the western extremity of the island, and is bounded on the south, the west, and the north, by the sea; and on the east by the river Tamar, which divides it from Devonshire. Its length from east to west is about 80 miles; its greatest width from S. S. E. to N. N. E. is near 45, though in many places it is not above 20 miles wide, the peninsula of which the county consists, growing narrower by degrees from Devonshire to the *Land's End*. However, it is 150 miles in circumference.

The land is mountainous in the middle, and these mountains form a kind of broken chain, throughout the whole length of the county. On each

each side this high ridge, the land has a plainer surface, but is rather more hilly on the north than on the south. This ridge intercepts the rain, and fogs and dews fall down from it in plentiful streams towards the sea-coast, so that, upon the whole, the earth is no where better watered than in this county.

Cornwall being a peninsula, almost surrounded by the sea, we cannot expect the air to be free from exhalations; therefore it is no wonder they seldom have a dry summer in this county. The rains, however, are rather frequent than heavy; nor is it ever so cloudy but the sun will break out one part or other of the day, which may be owing to the hilly narrow ridge-like form of the county, over which the winds have a quick and short passage, and do not suffer the clouds to hang long in one place. Besides, for three or four months in the year, the wind blowing between the west and south, must of course bring much wet from the ocean. The storms in Cornwall are also more violent than in other places remote from the sea, all the high lands being quite exposed. Hence it appears that the air of this county must needs be replete with the salts of the sea, for which reason it eats into iron in a very short time, and the bars and frames of windows are always corroded by the salt spray, let them be ever so well painted. This saltiness of the air is bad for persons afflicted with the scurvy, and is also very hurtful to shrubs and trees near the sea shore, especially towards the west, insomuch that it will not permit a tree to rise much above whatever shelters it from the sea-winds. The sea-air is pernicious to plants, in proportion to their tenderness or strength, and the force with which it is driven upon them. This is very evident, the young shoots of plants
being

being shrivelled up, in proportion as they are more or less exposed. Hence we may conclude, that without great industry in raising artificial shelters, no tall trees can be expected in Cornwall.

The winters here are much more mild than in any other part of England, in so much that myrtles will always grow, without being put into green-houses. They never have any very great hail-storms, nor will the snow lie upon the ground above three or four days. However, when the winters are very severe in other parts of this island, Cornwall has its share; thus in 1739, it froze very hard on the 29th of December, and the next day it began to snow, which killed the orange-trees where the windows of the green-houses were left open. The spring is always very early, as appears from the buds and blossoms. However, the summers, though Cornwall lies so far to the south, are never very hot, on account of the sea-breezes blowing towards the land.

As there are many minerals in Cornwall, they must needs affect the air in some degree or other. These mineral vapours ascend so plentifully out of some of the lodes, or veins of metal, and are so inflammable, that they often take fire, for which reason little flames of light are seen in the night-time, which is a sign that a good lode lies underneath. However, we must not confound these lights with the *ignes fatui*, or *Jack with the Lanthorn*, which are of a different kind. There are often lightnings, which produce dreadful effects, and some have been so violent as to furrow the ground as if it had been done with a ploughshare; they have also burst rocks, splitting them into shivers; but these effects have been most remarkable on a hill called Moelfra, in the parish of Madfern.

Not-

Notwithstanding what has been said, the air, in general, is very healthy, and always proper for respiration, because it is not loaded with the unwholesome exhalations of bogs, marshes, or stagnating pools; besides, the weather is seldom calm, and, when it is, it does not continue above a day's time. Much might be feared from the mineral exhalations, if the contrary did not appear from experience; for there are as many instances of long life here, as in any other part of England.

The principal rivers of this county are the following.

The river Tamer rises in the parish of Morwinstow, which is more to the north than any other, and about three miles from the sea-coast. The spring first appears on the top of a moor, from whence the ground declining to the north, makes way for the water to run that way, and it forms the head of the river Turrige in Devonshire. The ground also shelves away on the other side to the south, and draining the bogs of the same moor on that side, forms the beginning of the Tamer, which, at the distance of ten miles, becomes so considerable as to give name to the village of Tamerton, where, continuing its course to the south, it enters the parish of St. Stephens, at the corner of which it receives the river Werrington. About half a mile farther, it receives the Atery, which runs under the walls of Lancelston, and becomes, soon after, at Polstun-bridge, a considerable wide and rapid stream. From whence running nearly south, it passes through Graistum-bridge, and a mile below it receives the river Cowley; the Inny falls into it soon after. Five miles farther down, the Tamer receives the Inny on the east, and having made a creek into the parishes of Botsfleming and Landedulph,

dulph on the west, becomes a spacious harbour. Then it washes the foot of the ancient borough of Saltash, and, within half a mile, is joined by the Lynher creek and river; passing afterwards strait forwards, it forms the noble harbour of the *Hamoze*, a Saxon term, signifying a wet oozy habitation. Here it makes too large creeks, one of which is called St. John's, and the other Millbrook. After this it enters the sea, having Mount Edgecumbe for its western, and the lands of Stonehouse, and St. Nicholas island, for its eastern boundary.

The river Seaton rises in St. Clare, four miles to the north-east of Leskard, and passing within a mile of that borough, to Lanseaton, runs through Minhenut parish, falling into the sea at Seaton, after a course of about twelve miles.

The Loo, or East-Loo, rises in the highlands of St. Clare already mentioned, and passing under Leskard-Park, becomes navigable at San-Place, emptying itself about three miles farther, between the two towns of East Loo and West Loo. Here there is a stone bridge of 15 arches, six feet three inches wide, and 41 yards long. Below this bridge is a creek that admits the tide, and with it small vessels. One mile below San-Place, the Loo is joined by the Duld, from the west, which rises in the parish of St. Pinock, and passing south, becomes navigable at Trelaun Wear, about two miles from the sea. A mile after it joins the East-Loo, it passes with it to the stone bridge.

The Fawey, or Fowey, rises in Fawey-Moor, at a place called Fawey-Well, not far from Brown Willy, one of the highest mountains in Cornwall. It passes under four bridges, takes in several rivulets, and comes at last to Resprin-bridge; three miles beyond which, it reaches the

the borough of Lestwithel, where it passes under a handsome stone bridge of nine arches, though there is occasion for no more than three. Formerly the sea ebbed and flowed above this town, though at present loaded barges seldom come within a mile of it. Three miles farther, the Faway receives the water of Lerwyn river and creek from the east, and then becomes a deep wide haven; in two miles farther, it reaches the town of Fowey, which is seated on its western bank, and a little below joining the Polruan creek, it opens into the sea, between two old towers, built in the reign of Edward IV.

The next navigable stream is the river Fal, which rises at a place called Fentum Val, about two miles west of the hills of St. Rock, or Gram-pound. Hence it runs to Tregony. About a mile below, there is a creek three miles long, called Lamoran creek. After this it is joined by Truro creek, and the tide comes up to the borough of Truro, which renders the river navigable for vessels of 100 ton, that come up to the town key. When it approaches near the sea, it is called Falmouth-Harbour, from Falmouth, which stands on the western bank. It runs into the sea, between Pendennis-castle on the western bank, and St. Maudit's and Anthony's point on the east. It is here somewhat more than half a mile wide, with a deep channel, but near the middle there is a large rock, which is hid when the water is deepest; for this reason there is a beacon laid down on the center of the rock.

The head of the river Hel is upon the hills of Wendron parish, whence it runs about three miles to a village called Guyk, whither, by the help of the tide, vessels come up. About a mile below, this river is joined by Maugan creek, on the
the

the south, and three miles farther by Kestel creek, where there is a ferry, and, at its mouth, three miles farther, it is joined by Gillam creek. These, with two or three more, form a harbour, which, within a mile of its mouth, is secure enough for ships of 200 tons; its passage into the sea is about a mile wide, and is called Helford passage.

The river Lo, or Low, rises in the highest part of Wendron parish, and in about five miles reaches the borough of Helfstone, and five miles below, it forms a lake, called Lo Pool.

The river Heyl is formed by four brooks, which, uniting at Rebubbus, run a western course; then turn to the north, and in three miles turn to St. Erth, or St. Ercy Bridge, which has three stone arches, and a raised causeway, well walled on each side, extending across the valley. The lighters can now come no farther than within a bow-shot of the bridge, and that only with the tide of flood. Here the land of Cornwall is the narrowest, so that from the full sea mark of Heyl in the north sea, to Market-Jew, and Mounts-Bay in the south sea, the distance is but three miles.

Ganal, or Canal-Creek, runs up into the land from the north, or Severn sea, about two miles, where it meets with the river that rises in the parish of Newland. It was more considerable formerly, but has suffered greatly from the plenty of sea sand at the mouth of the Ganal. This creek will only admit vessels of 30 tons burthen.

The Alan is the greatest river on the north side of Cornwall, and at present is called the Camel, that is, the *Crooked River*. In Leland's time it was called Dunmere, that is, *The Water of the Hills*. This river rises about two miles north of the borough of Camelford, where its

banks are famous for two considerable battles, in one of which king Arthur received a mortal wound. The other was fought between the Cornish and the West-Saxons in Devonshire, in the year 824, in which many thousands fell on each side, and the victory remained doubtful. From hence the Alan, after it has run about 12 miles, becomes navigable for sand-barges at Parbrook, and at Egloshel it receives the river Laine. A mile farther down, this river comes to Wade-bridge, which is the largest in the county, for it has 17 handsome uniform arches, and reaches quite across the valley. The erection of this bridge was undertaken by the vicar of Egloshel, in the year 1460, whose name was Lovebon, as a work of general utility. This public-spirited clergyman, after great fortitude and perseverance in encountering a number of difficulties, as well from the situation as his circumstances, lived to see his bridge finished, partly by the assistance of others, to the great emolument of the county, and the immortal honour of his name. Vessels of about 60 tons come up to this bridge, and supply the country with coals from Wales, and with lime, timber, and grocery from Bristol. A mile farther down, the river makes two small creeks, and passes by the ancient town of Padstow, where there is a pier, and a trade from Ireland, Wales, and Bristol channel. It is here about a mile wide, and there is a ferry-boat to cross over it. Two miles below the town, the sea has thrown a bar of sand across the haven, which prevents ships of more than 200 tons from coming in at all; and it is somewhat dangerous for smaller ships, except the tides are high, and the weather fair. Borlase is of opinion that this river Alan might, with no great difficulty, be joined by a canal to the Fawey, which, as we have

have already observed, falls into the sea on the south coast, the distance between them in the middle of the county not being above four miles; the advantages which would result from uniting two such considerable rivers, cannot but be obvious, as the trade of the whole country would then undoubtedly be greatly increased; this scheme might the more easily be executed, as there are between the two rivers several lesser streams, which must greatly facilitate it.

We find no navigable river farther north, but there are two or three small creeks, one of which is called *Bude haven*, it being formerly much more considerable than it is now. It is most probable the haven itself is turned into a morass, and meadow-ground, about two miles in length, and almost as much broad. A river runs through the middle of it, which, with the tide, makes the present creek.

In the rivers of this county, besides the fish of small consideration, there are Shoters, which are a kind of small Trouts; but in ponds they grow to the length of 12 or 14 inches, and are thought by some to be peculiar to this and the neighbouring county of Devon. The flesh is white, but not so firm as that of the common Trout; it is to be found in all brooks not infected by the mundick waters of the mines; for these are fatal to all fish, sooner or later. There are no Jacks, Perches, Carps, Cray-fish, nor many others that are to be found in the more inland parts of the kingdom; but then to make amends, there is a great variety of sea-fish, and several sorts of Trouts, which are in great plenty in their proper season. In the rivers Alan and Laine, near Pendavy, they have a Grey Trout, the flesh of which, in the summer, is red and delicate. In the river Fawey or Fowey, near Lottweithyel, there is a

Black Trout, taken in the months of May and June, sometimes three feet long. In July the Salmon-peel comes up the same river, but it is commonly caught at the mouths of rivers. About the latter end of August another Trout appears, which, from the time it is seen, is called the Bartholomew-Trout. It is generally about 18 inches long, but the belly is deeper than that of the black Trout, and the flesh is red, and in higher esteem.

The Salmon is properly a sea fish, but it comes occasionally into the rivers to cast its spawn. It is caught in the river Fowey at two wears, from the latter end of the spring, till autumn; it is also taken in great plenty in lord Edgecumbe's wear at Cuthel, on the river Tamer.

Having described all the rivers of any note to be met with on this extensive coast, we shall next mention the lakes.

Four miles north of the church of St. Neot's, and about 14 miles from Loo, the waters of the adjacent hills are collected into a basin, and form a small lake of about a mile in circumference, called *Dozmery Pool*. It is about nine feet deep, and contains no fish but eels.

Between the parish of Budoc and that of Falmouth, is a small creek, not above half a mile in length, and a quarter wide, separated from the sea by a bar of sand and shingles. This is now called *Swan Pool*, from the swans which were formerly kept here. The eels of this water are large, and accounted extremely good.

The most considerable lake in Cornwall is named *Low Pool*, which lies between the parish of Sithney on the west, and those of Helston and Maugan on the east. It is about two miles long, and a furlong wide. It is formed by a bar of pebbles, sand and shingles, forced up against

gainst the mouth of this creek, by the south-west wind. This bar dams up the water that proceeds chiefly from Lo river, till it comes to a stone bridge, called St. John's-bridge. About a mile below it, the lake begins to overspread the whole valley, and in half a mile more, the depth increases from three to ten feet, making a little creek into Penrofs. From hence the pool deepens, and at length comes to the depth of 26 feet, and then it shallows again. However, during the winter, the whole valley is often covered with water, from the town of Helfton, to the edge of the sea. At that season, the town-mills are commonly stopped up by the swelling of the lake, at which time the mayor of Helfton applies to the lord of Penrofs, presenting him a few halfpence in a leathern purse; upon which he has a right to cut through the bar, in order to let out the redundant water, and the mills are set going again. Hence it appears that if this bar was always kept open, there would be a good haven up to Helfton. The cliffs round this lake are moderately high, and between them there is a very distinct echo, which, though agreeable in a calm, is terrible in a tempest.

This pool breeds a kind of trout which deserves a particular description. It is near 16 inches long, with a large eye, and the back of a deep purple colour, but the scales are of a silver hue. The belly, from the strait line which passes from the gills to the middle of the tail, is of a bright pearl colour, spotted for the most part with scarlet, but the spots on the back are purplish. Though the salmon-peel above mentioned, in some measure resembles this trout, it is a different fish, having a more circular back; and the lower mandible rather longer than the upper. besides other distinctions.

With respect to the medicinal springs of this county, *Madern-Well*, in the parish of that name, in Powder hundred, is much frequented for the curing of pains, achs, and stiffness of the limbs, by bathing; and many cures are said to be performed, which must be owing to its being a cold bath, for it does not appear to have any mineral impregnation.

In the parish of Sancred, in the same hundred, is a well, and adjoining to it is a chapel, erected on account of the remarkable cures done by the water; it is now in ruins; yet the carved stones that remain, convince us that it has been formerly of great note. This water is famous for drying up humours, as well as healing wounds and sores, though it does not appear to have any mineral impregnation; hence it is thought that the cures are owing to the coldness of the water, which acts by bracing up the fibres, strengthening the glands, and promoting the secretion and circulation of the fluids.

Another well of the simple kind is that called *Holywell*, about a mile and a half to the north-west of St. Cuthbert's church, in Pider hundred, in a small sandy bay, where there are several caves made in the cliff by the northern sea. In one of these caves, at the north-eastern point of the bay, and at the foot of a high cliff, this well is seated. The entrance is low, but, by the help of steps cut into the rock, there is an ascent about 15 feet perpendicular, where the water distilling from every part of the roof, is collected into a little basin, whence proceeds a small rill. As the water passes through the clefts of the clay and stone, it brings down the finest parts of both, which are formed into seams, and ridges correspondent to the clefts from which they proceed. There are short mammillary processes hanging

hanging from the roof, which are a sort of *stalactites*, and the floor of the rock is incrustated with the same substance. The water is much commended in fluxes, and disorders of the bowels, yet will it not change colour with green tea, or milk; of course it has neither steel nor allum in its composition. If this water be evaporated to one half, no pellicle appears, nor any salts on its cooling; but it deposits a small sediment of the same colour and substance with the incrustations already mentioned. These being pulverized and placed over the fire, do not melt, nor have they any particular taste or smell; and if some of the powder be thrown into the fire, it does not turn blue, or flame, which shews that it has no sulphur in its composition.

The most remarkable mineral spring in Cornwall, and the most famous for its cures, is that which rises in the tenement of Colvien, in the parish of Ludevan, in Penwith hundred. The bed through which this water flows is loose, abounding with pebbles, mixed with a gravelly clay, strongly impregnated with an ochrous iron mineral, from which the taste and smell of the water proceeds. With galls it turns to a deep reddish purple; with green tea to a lighter purple, and with oak leaves to a bluish black, but with a purplish cast.

This water has many virtues, and Mr. Borlase assures us, that two persons, by drinking it, and washing the parts affected, were cured of the King's Evil; he heard also of many others who were cured in the same manner. It promotes perspiration very strongly, removes obstructions and swellings of the abdomen, restores a decayed appetite, and, applied externally, cures sore eyes, and scrophulous eruptions. There are ma-

ny other wells of this kind, but this is sufficient to shew their virtues.

There is one well of a different kind, called *Carn Kui* water, near Redruth, which is impregnated with tin as well as iron; but as for its virtues we have no account of them.

The marine situation of Cornwall has its advantage, for the sea fills up the bays and harbours, making a number of fishing creeks, and bringing in sand, ore-weed, and fish, in many places to the very doors of the inhabitants. In short, the sea procures plenty, promotes trade, and gives many advantages unknown to the inland counties. However, it is not without its inconvenience, on account of the numerous promontories jetting out on each side, and making deep bays, dangerous to sailors in stormy weather. Besides, ships often mistake one channel for another, and are drawn aside from their true course by the inequality of the tides. Add to this, that their irregularity is increased at the extremity of Cornwall by the Scilly Islands, which also increase, by their proximity, the velocity of the current. The spring-tide at the Lands-End usually rises 18 feet, and from that to 24, according to the wind and weather, and in stormy weather it has even risen to 30 feet. However, the common neap tides usually rise no higher than 14 feet, but, what is most remarkable, the tide sets inward from the south at the Lands-End, near nine hours, and the ebb continues only for three or four hours, which ought to be taken notice of by all seamen. Add to this, that the latitude of the Lizard was never till lately, during the last war, certainly determined, though this is the first land that ships usually make when they are homeward bound, and the longitude is not yet with any certainty

tainty determined. The highest tide is generally about two days and a half after the new and full moon, and later than at London-Bridge an hour and fifty-five minutes. The variation of the needle has been usually said to be 18 degrees westerly ; but in October 1757 it was found to be 19 degrees 12 minutes ; hence it appears that the variation constantly increases ; besides, in the year 1700, Dr. Halley found it to be no more than seven degrees and a half.

It may not be amiss in this place to take notice of a few of the many kinds of fish with which the coasts of Cornwall abound. Of these, as being largest in size, those of the whale kind must naturally first attract our notice. That kind of Whale which is called the *Blower*, or the fin-fish, the *Physeter* of authors, is found in these seas, and has its name from blowing the water to a considerable height, through a pipe, or hole in its head. The *Grampus*, also, found here is usually 18 feet long ; it is sometimes so large that it will weigh 1000 pounds, and it is so voracious that it will prey even upon porpoises.

The *Porpoise* has the back fin pointing forwards towards its head, and sloping away backwards, which is a singularity observable in no other. It is called *Porcus Piscis*, or the Hog-fish, from the quantity of fat which covers the whole body under the skin, or perhaps from the shape of its snout, and its wallowing in the water.

The *Blue-Shark* frequents the Cornish shore during the pilchard season, and is so great an enemy to fishing-nets, that the fishermen have large hooks made by the country smiths, on purpose to catch them.

The *Sea-Fox* is called by the Cornish the *Thresher*, from the motion of its long tail, with which it strikes its enemy the grampus, whenever it rises

to the surface of the water to breathe. There is another shark called the *Porbeagle*, which is different from those described by any author.

The *Monk*, or *Angel-Fish*, is of the flat kind, and is termed by some the *Mermaid-fish*; it seems to be of a middle nature, between a *Dog-fish* and a *Ray*. One of these was taken in July 1757, at Penzance, in a trammel-net. The belly is white, the back of the colour of a sole, without streaks of white.

The *Fishing-Frag*, by some called the *Sea-Devil*, is a very remarkable fish, and worthy the notice of such as travel in these parts.

The *Turbot*, or *Bret*, is an excellent fish, and comes in the summer and autumn in such plenty, to Mounts-Bay, that two boys have taken thirty of them in an evening with a hook and line. The fish called in Cornwall the *Lug-a-Leaf*, is named in London the *Pearl*. There are also the *Plaice*, *Dab*, and *Flounder*, besides the *Halybut*, the flesh of which is nearly as good as that of the *Turbot*; it is the largest of the flat kind; but that called the *Whisk* approaches nearest to the taste of a turbot.

The *Sole* is frequently caught on the sandy shores of this county, but they are the largest near the Scilly-Islands. There is also a smooth sole, called the *Lantern*, on account of its transparency. The *Conger-Eel* is the largest of the eel kind, but the *Free-Eel* has a milder taste, and fewer small bones. There is also a *Sea-Adder*, which is a kind of needle-fish; it is 16 inches long, and has a back and tail fin, with scales, shaped like those of the land-adder. One of these being opened, there were found in its belly some hundreds of young fry, resembling little eels, which being put into the water, moved to and

and fro; this sea-adder had a semi-circular furrow on the back.

A *Sun-Fish* was taken at Penzance in May 1743, which was three inches thick at the back, and only three quarters of an inch at the belly. The tail was gristly and transparent, and the colour was dappled, with darker spots on the back; the belly was of a silver pearl colour, with streaks half an inch wide, consisting of two lists of a dark colour, between which there was one in the middle, of a pearl colour, spotted with black.

On this coast there is also a fish of the Tunny kind, by some called the *Spanish-Mackerel*. Mr. Ray saw one of these at Penzance seven feet long; they will sometimes weigh 500 pounds. This fish differs from the common Mackerel only in being much larger, and having no spots. The common Mackerel is caught in great plenty on the southern coast of Cornwall, and the inhabitants not only eat the fresh, but salt and pickle it for winter use, to the great relief of the poor.

The *Whistle-Fish*, the *Sea-Loach*, a particular species of *Sucking-Fish* caught here, and the *Bull-Card*, may be placed among the slippery eel kind. A fish resembling the *Dracunculus* of Rondeletius, was taken in Mounts-bay in 1756, but it was twice as large as those of the same species taken in the Mediterranean; when it first came out of the water, it exhibited all the various shades of a lively yellow, pearl-colour, and blue.

The *Sea-Dragon* is seldom seen near Cornwall, and has not been well-described by authors. It has a deep furrow on its back, as was observed in 1757, in which it can conceal the poisonous spines of its back fins.

The *Basse* has an elegant shape, and a compact structure. The *Mullet* is generally taken in small nets, near the shore. The *Gurnards* are thus

thus called, from their grunting like a sow ; but in Cornwall they are called *Pipers*, because the sound they produce is thought to resemble that of a pipe. Of these are the *Grey-Gurnard*, the *Tub-Fish*, the *Red-Gurnard*, or *Rocket*, the *Piper*, the *Streaked-Gurnard*, and the *Sur-Mullet*, which is excellent eating. The *Doree*, or *Gilded-Fish*, has a firm flesh, and is much in request, though it is somewhat drier than the sole or turbot. It is common in the pilchard season, and the largest are sold at about six-pence each.

Of fishes with a single fin on their backs there are the *Herring* and the *Pilchard* ; as also the *Shad* and the *Sprat*, of which there are two sorts, one the offspring of the pilchard, the other of the herring. The pilchard fishery is one of the most considerable in the kingdom. They swarm from July to November in such quantities that 500,000 have been caught at one draught, and 8 or 900 hogheads filled in a season, at one fishery only; viz. at Mousehole, near Mounts-bay. There are also two sorts of *Garr-Fish*, or *Horn-Fish*, one of which is called the *Gerrock*, and the other the *Skipper*, it being remarkable for moving its upper-jaw. Besides these, there is the *Black-Fish*, which has very small thin scales : it is 15 inches long, and three-quarters of an inch broad, exclusive of the fin ; the head and nose are like those of a trout. The mouth is little, the teeth are very small, and the eye is full and bright.

Of shell-fish, besides *Muscles*, *Limpets*, *Cockles*, *Wrinkles*, and *Crabs* of every sort, there is the *Long-oyster*, which is the sea-locust of Aldrovandus ; and *Lobsters* are in such plenty that well-boats come here to load, and carry them alive to London, and elsewhere. There are great quantities of the *Shrimp* kind taken in Helford-harbour, Mounts-bay, and other places in calm weather :

weather : also the *Soldier-Crab*, or *Hermit-Shrimp*, remarkable for taking possession of some empty shell for his habitation. *Oysters* are very plentiful in Cornwall ; the best are taken in the creeks in Constantine parish, and they are always the best tasted when the waters have no communication with the mines. These have a prodigious strength in clasping their shells, insomuch that we are told by Carew, that three mice endeavouring to seize an oyster when the shell was open, it closed and killed them all. We are also told by another gentleman of great veracity, that, as he was fishing, a lobster was seen to attempt an oyster several times, but as soon as the lobster approached, the oyster shut his shell ; however, at another opening, the lobster made a shift to throw a stone between the gaping shells, and then easily devoured the oyster.

There are also on this coast several kinds of shell-fish, with only one valve ; but it would be enlarging too much to enumerate them. Fossil shells are extremely rare in this county, which may appear somewhat strange, considering it is in a manner surrounded by the sea ; but this has however been variously accounted for.

Sea-Nettles, called by the sailors *Blobbers*, have that name from affecting the hands like a land-nettle. They are to be found on almost every pool on the sea shore, and in some caves washed often by the tide. They vary in colour from scarlet to the deepest purple, and are finely powdered with yellow specks. Their clasps, by which they fix themselves to the rock, have as great strength as their arms, which wave continually to and fro in search of food.

The sea-nettle, called *Medusa*, has not hitherto been fully described ; the figure is round, with a convex back, and the center is marked with a seeded

seeded circle of an auborn brown. At three quarters of an inch distance from the circle, 16 rays begin, which point inward to the center, and divide into two branches, or legs, as they tend to the circumference, each leg terminating in a little egg-like knob, half an inch long, and one fourth of an inch distant from each other.

All sea-nettles swim obliquely, contracting themselves, and expanding their brim alternately, promoting their rest and motion by their legs; however they cannot move very fast, for which reason they are a prey to the larger fish, and, according to Borlace, are sometimes eaten by mankind.

The *Star-Fish* has been found near Penzance, but that with ten rays is very uncommon; for those that are most frequently found have but five. In this sort the bristles of the back are high and spinous. There are several sorts of these chiefly distinguished by their colours.

On the shores of Mounts Bay the bones of cuttle-fish are frequently found, and are used by silver-smiths for polishing. The *Leloligo*, or *Ink-Fish*, was found in Mounts-Bay in 1757. The body is 11 inches long, flattish, and an inch and an half thick, spreading on each side into a thin triangular fleshy substance, which serves instead of fins when in the water. The tail is more blunt than that described by Rondeletius, the head is globular, and one inch and a half high. It has ten feelers, of various lengths. The fins serve for arms, and have probably a very lively sense of feeling. The juice of this fish is so black that it may be used for ink, and the animal pours it out to conceal itself when in danger.

Seals.

Seals, or *Sea-Calves*, are by the Cornish called the *Soyle*; and these are common in such caves of the sea-shore as are not much frequented. This animal is from five feet long to seven, and the head is somewhat like that of a calf; its pectoral fins resemble the fore feet of quadrupedes, with five toes connected by a membrane with which it can throw stones at its pursuers. The tail is horizontal, and supplies the want of fins in the hinder parts. The seal is amphibious, for it cannot always live in the water, but must come ashore to rest and breathe. The poor people on the northern coasts of this county, eat the flesh in times of scarcity.

Tortoises, or *Turtles*, are not natives of the coasts of Cornwall, yet there were two caught in 1756. One was taken by the drovers in the mackerel-nets four leagues south of Pendennis-castle, and brought alive to Truro. It had seven spinous ridges in its shell, and six flat smooth fleshy fins, without nails, of a bluish colour; but on the under part they were ruddy, flesh-coloured, and speckled with dark spots, as well as the under part of the neck. It weighed about 800 pounds, and was six feet five inches in length, from the tip of the nose to the end of its shell. The other taken by the drovers off the Lands-End, weighed six hundred and three quarters, after it was bled to death.

As we are now on the subject of the sea, and its produce, it may not be amiss to take some notice of the submarine plants found in Cornwall. These are distinguished into *stony*, *woody*, and *herbaceous*; among the last, the most common are the *grass-wrecks* and *sea-wrecks*, otherwise *ore-weed*; of this there are great varieties on the sea-coast; two of which have their capillary ramifications wonderfully distinct, and of a most beautiful

ful lake colour, even to the very extremity. The largest and noblest plant of this kind, is the *Bloody Seed Dock*; when it is somewhat faded the leaf is red, variegated with straw colour, not unlike a striped tulip, but when in perfection it is of a rich gold colour, and extremely thin; laid on paper it may be folded and rolled up with it; in so much that some curious ladies cover their fans with it, for it sticks very close to the paper. Some have given it the name of the *Sensitive fucus*, for when just warmed near the fire the edges will warp up, and then if a finger is moved towards them, they shrink from it, and recover their former shape when the finger is removed. When it is placed on a pretty warm hand it continually moves to and fro like an animal struggling for life. This is doubtless owing to the perspiration of the hand. The *Lichen marinus*, or the *Laver* or *Slauk*, when brown is boiled to a jelly, and then left to settle: it is accounted very nourishing food in Wales and elsewhere. Some pretend it is extremely good to cure cancers of the breast. That sort of *Fucus* called *Sea-thong*, has at the root clasps, or a concave claspsulous part; this plant in the year 1755, was seen in its several stages of growth, and each had this circular cavity. In the infant state, the first buds appear like papillæ in the center of the cup-like cavity; in others the thongs were from an inch to four feet long, and the cavity was less in proportion to the age of the plant; from which it appears that the cup is the first sheath of the plant, designed to shelter and protect the tender buds of the fucus, till the strings within this sheath have gained a little strength to enable them to extend farther in the sea. Some of these thongs have been found twenty feet in length. On the sand shore *Spunges* are often found fixed to the rocks, shells or sands; many of these have

have their parts shooting into the shape of curled leaves; some are branched, others are folded oblong balls, which inclose a fishy embryo; and a fourth sort is full of large round holes at the top of its tubercles, and of a purplish colour when taken out of the water.

The woody Submarine vegetables are so scarce in Cornwall, that some have asserted there were none in the county; yet, the *Warted Sea-fan* alone is sufficient to contradict this opinion. It was found on Pednankarn rock, two miles south east of Maushloe pier, in Mounts bay, in twenty-six fathom water. It was fourteen inches broad, and twelve high; but much larger have been got in the same bay. The stony Submarine plant, called *Sea-mosses*, are in great variety on the Cornish shore. They are sometimes fixed to fucuses and shell fish; but most commonly to rocks. Three sorts of *White Coral* have also been found, one of which fixes itself upon stones and surrounds them, and imitates the foliaceous turns of Liver-wort. Others consist of small knotty branches, growing out of each other like a shrub. A third sort has been found in globular lumps, more solid and compact in the middle than either of the former. Corals have also been met with of the *Astroite* kind, pierced with holes in the shape of Asterisks from the bottom to the top, which are supposed to have been the work of some insect.

We shall close our account of the seas of Cornwall, by the relation of a circumstance well worth the attention of the reader. On the first of November, 1755, about two o'clock in the afternoon, the day of the great earth-quake at Lisbon, the most extraordinary phenomenon that ever appeared on the sea, was observed on the coast of this county; it being a dead calm, the vanes were left

left pointing to the N. E. the Mercury in the barometer, was higher than it had been known for three years before, and the Mercury in Fahrenheit's thermometer stood at fifty-four. At St. Michael's mount, after the sea had ebbed about half an hour, it rose suddenly six feet in height, retiring again in about ten minutes, and the flux and reflux every ten minutes continued during the space of two hours and a half. This short tide came in with great violence from the S. E. and ebbed away to the westward, tossing the boats about which lay at the pier head in a strange manner, but the first and second flux and reflux were not so violent as the third and fourth; for in these, and what immediately followed, the current of the sea was as rapid as a mill stream descending to an under-shot wheel; the last half hour the violence gradually abated, and entirely ceased about the time when it would have been low water.

On the 15th of July, 1757, a violent shock of an earthquake was felt on the western part of Cornwall, but where it began, or whether it was felt at the same time in different places is uncertain. Its extent was from the Island of Scilly, and as far eastward as Liskard, and towards the north as far as Camelford. The effects in towns and villages, were much the same as in other parts, though they were not every where equally terrifying. But how the mines were affected by such shocks, not being commonly known, we shall say a few words on the subject.

In Carnorth-adit, in the parish of St. Just, the shock was sensibly felt eighteen fathom deep; and in the mine called Boscadzhil-downs, at more than thirty fathom. At Heuel-rith mine, in the parish of Lanalt, the people said the earth moved under them, quick at first, and than a slower waving trembling,

trembling, and the stage boards of the little mines or shafts were perceived to move twenty fathom deep. In Herland mine, commonly called the Manor, in the parish of Gwinier, the noise was heard fifty-five and sixty fathom deep, as if a studdle had broke, that is a timber support of the deads; and the deads, that is, the loose rubbish and the broken stone of the mine were set a running; this was nothing like the noise of thunder. In Chacewater mine the same noise was heard at least seventy fathom deep. At Huelrith mine, near Godolphin, the noise was seemingly underneath, and the miners felt the earth move under them, with a prodigious swift and seemingly horizontal trembling; it continued but a few seconds of time, and the sound was dull and rumbling. Several persons, then in the mine, at work, sixty fathom deep, thought the earth about them moved; and heard an uncommon noise. Others working in an adjoining mine, were so terrified that they called to their companions above to draw them up. It has been disputed of late, whether these shocks proceeded from the air or not; but the director of the mine observes, from his own experience, that thunder was never known to effect the air at the depth of sixty fathom in a single shaft, much less could it continue the sound through such workings as are in this mine; because it must be impeded in all parts by the deads, great quantities of timber, the rattling of chains, the friction of the wheels and ropes, and the dashing of water, which plainly shew it must have been a real trembling of the earth.

The vegetable soils of this county, may be distinguished into the black and gritty, the shelly flatty soil; and the stiff reddish soil approaching more to the nature of clay. The highest grounds are covered with a black soil, which bears nothing but

but sower grass, moss and heath, which is cut up in thin turfs for firing; the best of it, however, bears short dwarf cornish furze. On the banks of the river Heil is a strong close grained turf, which they cut into glebes ten inches square and six deep. In crofts down the hills this black soil serves as a wintering for horned cattle, and bears good potatoes, rye, and *pillas*, which last is the naked oat of rye; and in the field it bears barley and oats, and serves for pasture for cowes and sheep, and especially for rearing young bullocks.

The soil about the middle of the county is a shelly stony earth, and is reckoned better for wheat than the former. Several parts of the county have their vegetable soil of this mould.

The reddish stiff soil, by some called loamy, is of a closer texture, this is most common on level grounds and gentle declivities; but in some places these soils are found all together, but not in the same proportion in different places. The black and stony soils require stiff earthy calcarious manure, to warm, strengthen, and consolidate them; but the red and loamy soil requires something that will quicken and open it.

In the mines, of Cornwall, they often meet with the ochrous earths of metals; as the rusty ochre of iron, the green and blue ochres of copper; the pale yellow ochre of lead; the brown yellow of tin, and the red ochre of bismuth. These earths are called the feeders of the metals they belong to; and where they are found the metals themselves are not far off. And it will not be amiss to observe, that lumps of the ochre of lead, will mix well with oil, and make a shade between the common light and brown ochre; it being neither so bright as the former, nor so ruddy as the latter, but more upon the pink;

pink; it will be worth while for the painters to make a trial of it.

Very little chalk has hitherto been found in Cornwall, though there are specimens of some of a coarse grit met with in the parish of St. Clere; and perhaps more may be discovered hereafter. A lump of smooth earth was brought to Mr. Borlace, from the parish of Illogan, of a chocolate colour, which was speckled throughout with a bright yellow ochre, and a little ash coloured clay; it would not dissolve in water but when wetted it stuck fast to and coloured the fingers; being ground in water it made a good orange for drawing, not inferior to that made of the ashes of the vine branch, and it gave a fine sooty colour to paper. When ground with Linseed oil it would mix well with white, and laid thick upon the canvas it would neither crack nor fly off; besides the colour was equal, if not superior to burnt Umber, without being so raw, harsh and corrosive. When this earth was thrown into the fire, it cracked but little, nor did it emit an ill smell when thrown on red hot iron. It required no other change in the fire except contracting a little redness, and it would not ferment in aqua fortis; for all which reasons we may conclude it to be an excellent earth for painting in oil.

There are many strata of clay in Cornwall fit for bricks; and in the parish of Tewidner, twenty feet under the surface, is a stratum of white clay, which will effervesce with a hissing noise when thrown into water, turning it white like milk. The sand mixed with the clay will sink to the bottom, and leave three eighths suspended in the water.

In the parish of Madern there is another stratum, but little different from the former, and like that serves to make bricks for smelting-houses, because

because it will endure the most intense heat of the furnace. Borlace thinks these might be proper ingredients for making Porcelain. There are other whitish clays in this county; and in the heart of a bed of clay at Amelebreth are scattered stony glesbes of red earth, which being ground down with clarified Linseed oil, made a very good red, and seems to be proper for painters.

In the parish of Lannant is a yellow clay, much in request for building furnaces, and there are large quantities of it carried to Bristol, Wales, and other places every year. Bricks made of this clay will melt and vitrify in the fire, running into one solid body; but after this they never change, but will endure the most intense fire.

Near the borough of Leskard, in the West hundred, is found a kind of steatites, by which name such clays as have a greasy tallowy substance, are distinguished. Some of the sorts are much harder than others; that above mentioned is a yellow slatty clay, feels and cuts smooth, and appears as fine to the eye as Naples yellow; but upon trial it grows fat and greasy. It is found in great plenty, and as it very well agrees with grass grounds, causing them to produce plentiful crops, it is not improbable but it might be used to advantage as a substitute for marle.

There is a white steatites in the parish of Gwynass, in the hundred of Kerryer, which is harder than the former; but the most curious of all the clays in Cornwall is the steatites near the Lizard, generally called the Soap-rock. This pure white, close grained, glossy clay is a steatites that quickly dissolves in water, is without taste, and sticks a little to the tongue; mixt with oil it becomes greasy, but it will not ferment with aqua fortis. It is very absorbent, and will take spots out of silks without injuring the colour.

This

This is carefully selected from the other sorts of clay, and is almost wholly employed in the Porcelain manufactories. A second sort is white, dry and chalky, sticks strongly to the tongue, is without taste, and dissolves readily into a pulp with water; but it will not effervesce with acids. Another is of the same nature but equally mixed with red earth; a fourth is very white, clouded here and there with purple, and when dissolved with some difficulty in water, tinges it with purple.

The fifth is a glossy pearl coloured hard clay, approaching nearly to the consistence of a white opaque spar; it will not dissolve in water, but will cleave into granules; however, when ground with water, it becomes a flesh coloured milky pulp. The most curious sort of this kind was discovered in 1755; the texture was very close and fine, and it would bear a high polish. The sixth is a fat mass of steatites, with a coat about half an inch thick, of a waxy texture; the colour is a brown yellow, and the inside a strong purple intermixed with a paler purple, but the whole is veined with a whitish steatites. It dissolves into a pulp sooner than the last mentioned.

In the loade or vein near the top of the Soap-rock, there is a kind of green gritty chalk that dissolves readily in water, and becomes a clammy pulp. In a contracted loade beneath, the green has a stony coarse about an inch wide, and its taste is brackish; it divides in water into angular granules, and is the hardest of any yet mentioned. There is another of a deeper purple and more stony, on the same cliffs; that has so much the nature of stone that it will not so much as swell in the water. The blackish steatites is a vein about an inch thick, with a smooth and
glossy

glossy outside, and the inside veined and spotted with a glossy pearl coloured hard clay. It is somewhat of the appearance of a dark flint, but it will not give fire with steel. This is much in request, and is sent up in barrels to London, where it is used in the Porcelain and glass manufactories.

The general use of the steatites is to take out spots from cloth and silk, yet their possessing this property is not owing to their having any thing of the nature of soap in their composition, for on being analysed neither salt nor oil can be extracted from them. These kinds of clay are also of great use in polishing.

This county being almost surrounded with the sea, it must of course have a greater variety of sands than any other in Great Britain. When sand is viewed in a microscope it appears to be nothing more than a parcel of small stones, that were probably at first of different textures and hardness like other stones; it is also probable that many of them in process of time, especially the softer kind, have been resolved into earth. Besides the natural sort, there is another that owes its origin to the fretting of the river or the sea water; for we find that the sand of a particular shore, cove, or bay, is generally of the same colour and texture as the rocks and stones of the adjacent cliffs, when viewed through a microscope. Hence the sand of Clandour creek, near Penzance is of a pale blue colour like the rocks; and on the Island of Scilly there is a bright shining sand, consisting of the talc and crystals of that granite commonly called moor-stone, which borders all these islands.

In a creek called Pornanvon, in the parish of St. Just, near Cape Cornwall, in the northern part of the cliff under the clay and rubble, there
are

are many rows of large and small roundish pebbles of the granite kind; the covering of this pebbly stratum, is fifty feet deep on the north end, but only twenty on the south; and is composed of a rough yellow clay, in which here and there are stones of different sizes, but all angular: there is no solid stratum of rock above the pebbles; but how this should happen is very hard to account for.

After having said so much on soils, and the nature of the earth, it may not be amiss to examine in what manner the different strata are disposed, and for this purpose we shall chuse the hill on which St. Agnes's Beacon is placed, as it is one of the highest hills in Cornwall that adjoins to the shore, it being 480 feet above the level of the sea. Upon digging through this hill, the strata was disposed in the following order. The vegetable soil, and common rubble under it, is five feet deep. Next succeeds the fine sort of white and yellow clay, fit to make tobacco pipes, which is six feet in depth. Under this is a stratum of sand resembling that on the sea shore, six feet deep; when we met with a bed of rounded smooth stones or pebbles, such as are seen on sea beaches. Next succeeds a white stony rubble and earth, to the depth of four feet; and lastly comes a firm rock in which tin loads shape their course. In both these instances the sea sand is lodged far above the level of the sea. To account for such appearances the learned have for a long time puzzled themselves, but such debates being rather foreign from the subject of our present work, we shall forbear to enter into them.

From the earth to the stones of this county is a natural transition, and that there should be a great variety of them cannot appear wonderful, when we reflect that Cornwall is so mountainous.

On the surface of the lands in most parts of the county we meet with stones of an opaque, whitish, debased crystal, improperly called by some white Spar. These stones are extremely hard, and serve to repair the roads and face the boundaries of lands; they are also used for paving courts, stables and the like. This sort of stone is by the Germans called Quartz, by which name we shall distinguish it, as it has no English appellation.

In most of the compound stones there is more or less of a black matter, which the Cornish call *Cockle*; sometimes intermixed like spots and veins, and sometimes forming the basis. When broken transversely it is of a dull earthy black, and its texture consists of glossy parallel fibres, which make either the laminæ, striæ, or granules. It is of no value of itself, but either is the basis, or makes a considerable part of our most useful and remarkable stones.

We find very commonly in this county a stone which is distinguished by the name of *Elvan*, the grit of which is so close, and so extremely hard, that it will not cleave; and if tin ore happens to be included, it is not worth while to get it out. It is not found in strata or quarries, but in detached angular masses, sometimes in large rocks, and is of a grey bleuish colour. If these are of a proper shape they are the best stone for grinding colours upon. There is another kind of *Elvan* which consists of a yellow clayey cement, thick set with white and yellow opaque crystalline granules, thinly besprinkled with ash coloured grains. It is found in large nodules, five feet deep in clay pits, and on the beach between Penzance and Market-jew, but is not near so hard as the former.

Another very common stone is called *Killas*, and is of the crystal kind; but some sorts are more brittle

tle and more laminated than the rest. There is scarce any field or common without these, and they are sometimes in quarries covered with loose thin stones interperfed with earth and clay. They have a smooth face for building, and make a strong wall; but as they will admit water, they render the walls damp. There are three sorts, the yellow, the blewish, and the brown.

Between Leskard and the Tamar on the south coast there are quarries of slate, which supply the neighbourhood of Plymouth with coverings for their houses, and is thence exported in pretty large quantities. There are also quarries of the same at Padstow, and for many miles to the east the whole country is subject to a shelly slate; but the best covering slate in all England is at Denyball, about two miles south of Tindagell. The whole quarry is about 300 yards long, and 100 broad; the deepest part is thought to be about 10 fathom, and the strata lie in the rock, which at first is in a loose shattery state, with short and frequent fissures and laminæ or plates of unequal thickness, but not horizontal. Thus it continues to the depth of ten or twelve fathom of useless stuff, till a firm browner stone is met with, which is for slating houses, and the larger sort for flat pavements. This is called the *Top-stone*, and continues to the depth of ten fathoms, after which it gradually mends in quality till it arrives at the best, which does not happen till the depth of twenty-four fathoms from the surface of the ground. Then the bottom stone appears of a grey blue colour, and of such a close texture that it will sound like a piece of metal. The pieces, when cloven, are about the eighth of an inch thick, two feet long and one foot broad. They are sometimes only a foot square, and at

other times large enough for tables and grave-stones.

The Cornish free-stone is of two sorts, namely, that which consists of sand and spar, and that composed of sand and quartz. The sort most like Portland stone, and consequently the best, is met with in the parishes of Carantoc and Lower St. Columb. In the latter of these parishes, at New-kye, it may be had in large quantities, and of almost any dimensions: Its grit is a small yellowish sand, cemented together with spar, and it entirely dissolves in aquafortis; it also imbibes water plentifully. There are other stones that seem to be of the same texture, but are not arrived at maturity, these last are spread here and there among the Piran and Gwithian sands; and seem to be accidental formations of sand and a sparry juice, not sufficient to concrete the stone into a hard body.

Pobradon, or Pentowan stone is also of the sandy kind; it lies in a shelving lode about fifteen feet wide, in irregular masses of three different colours. The first and finest has a milk white ground, thinly besprinkled with purple specks, about the 24th of an inch in diameter: the second has an ash coloured ground with larger but fainter purple specks: the third has a yellow ochrus ground, speckled with purple, but not so distinct, with some micaceous talc thinly interspersed.

The stone on Illogan is still of a finer grit, and is nearly of the same texture and colour as Portland stone, but the masses are small; for there are not any that will square into blocks of one foot and a half.

Of the stones with a large grit, the moor stone is most common, it being scattered on the hills from
from

from the Land's End, through the hundreds of Penwith and Kerryer, as well as in other places; insomuch that the highest tops in the county are equally overspread with this stone, which is now acknowledged to be the same as the Oriental granate; therefore it may properly be called by that name. Of this there are five sorts, the white, the dusky, the yellow, the red, and the black.

There is great plenty of the white in the parish of Constantine, and the whitest of all has a milk white opake ground, with tabulated glossy grains of quartz, to one-fourth of an inch in diameter. The charge consists of brown and bright micæ of talc near the tenth of an inch in diameter. The grit is close, and it cuts well into mouldings: In a moderate fire it grows whiter and more brittle, but will not vitrify in a strong fire; it strikes fire with steel, and will not ferment with aquafortis. It will work freely, has a very good effect in building, and is better than Portland stone for steps and water-works. It is sent to Bristol, where it is polished for casting their plates of copper, and some gentlemen face their houses with it.

In the parish of Madera there is moor-stone, with a milk white ground of glossy quartz, or coarse crystal; and the charge consists of coarse black spots of cockle.

Rochrock, in the parish of Roch, differs only from this in having small black specks for the charge, very thick, and equally dispersed, which renders it of a mottled colour: but the tenderest and neatest for mouldings is that of Tregonin in the parish of Breag: the ground is a white opake grit, almost as tender as clay, interspersed with ash coloured transparent laminated granules of quartz of the eight part of an inch. It is soft at first, and works easily, but afterwards grows hard:

It is thought by some to be exceeding proper for the making of Porcelain.

That called the silver stone, has a ground of a dove-coloured transparent quartz, with grains one sixth of an inch diameter; and between them is a crystalline farinaceous small sand, with a vast quantity of silvery talc. At the distance of every four inches there is a spot of black cockle, half an inch or less in diameter; but when the spots are bigger, the distance is greater.

Considerable quantities are also found of yellow granite with a brownish yellow ground, speckled throughout with black foliaceous talc of the fourth of an inch in diameter; the charge is dark and cloudy, with many grains of cockle the fourth of an inch in diameter and under, intermixed with large whitish opaque prisms of quartz, from an inch and a half to an inch broad and deep. It is very shattery, and only fit for rough works, where damps will do no harm, for it imbibes water strongly. The yellow granite of Tregonin is much better; though the ground is yellow and no firmer than the former, yet the grains of the charge are less, and the specks of talc exceeding thick; which renders it a very beautiful stone: It works extremely well; for which reason it is placed among the best sort of granites.

In the parish of Ludgvan is a red granite, or one with a red ground, having laminated quartz and oblong lucid rhomboidal scales, to one fourth of an inch in diameter. The charge consists of dusky ash-coloured granules, in some places as dark and fibrous as cockle, and not only granulated but veined. The ground and charge are equally hard, and it is of the same texture and colour as the Egyptian granite. But there is a richer kind discovered by lord Edgcomb, of which very handsome stands for busts and vases have been made,

made, as well as two chimney pieces in Edgecomb hall.

A black granite with a ground of black cockle, is also found in the parish of Ludgvan above-mentioned, charged so thick with semi-transparent spots of quartz, that the charge almost equals the ground. These spots are of various sizes, some being an inch long, and half an inch broad. But there is a better stone of this kind at Bosworlas, in the parish of St. Just. The ground is of black cockle intersected in all directions, by toothy masses of warm flesh-coloured quartz, mostly in the shape of parallelopipeds, but not regular. It is a most beautiful stone, extremely hard, and will doubtless bear a fine polish.

As there are no marbles worth noticing in Cornwall, we shall next proceed to the smaller stones found in that county, where we must observe that no gravel pits have been yet discovered, abounding with heaps or strata of pebbles or flints; but there are a great number on the beaches of the bays and creeks. Of the white pebbles many are veined like marble, or clouded with a lively flesh colour; not a few are variegated with purple and other spots and veins; we find a few as transparent as rock crystal, of which one was found extremely bright on the top of Routor, one of the highest hills in Cornwall, and they are sometimes met with in mines though but seldom.

The yellow pebbles have usually a high polish, with an amber-like substance differently clouded, veined and spotted with other colours. There are a few opaque pebbles with a willow-green ground, charged with pale yellow crystalline granules. Ruddy pebbles with a ground of the colour of lake, have large irregular granules

nules of opake white quartz sunk therein, softer than the ground. Some of the brown-red have a high polish, are of a fine texture, and clouded with red, intersected by a blackish vein. These are evidently of the agate kind.

Pebbles with a blue ground are differently charged; for one with a blue killas is interspersed with innumerable little micaceous spots, of so faint a colour as scarce to be distinguishable from the ground: the charge is a thin sprinkling of opaque white quartz, and the stone is porous and rough to the touch. Another of this sort is charged with pale flesh-coloured dentated grains, to an inch in diameter. Some of the blue black, have a very good polish, and are of a close texture.

There are pebbles with a black ground, which are so equal a mixture of fireaked glossy cockle and white quartz, that if the latter were not in distinct granules to a quarter of an inch in size, it would be difficult to know the ground from the charge; which is outwardly rough to the touch. Another smooth flattish pebble has its fibres parallel and longitudinal, and possesses the properties of the true touch stone. But this specimen was probably a bit broken off from a block of coarse black marble, and wrought into the form of a pebble by the motion of the waters. Black and yellow jaspers are also to be met with among the Cornish pebbles.

It has been by some imagined that there are no flints in Cornwall; but this is a mistake, as great numbers have been found among the pebbles, on a beach between Penzance and Market-jew, also in the low lands of the parish of Ludgvan, where they lie in a stratum of clay three feet under the surface of the ground: These last are of a brownish colour within; but on the beach there

there is an agreeable variety, and some of them will bear a high polish.

Besides the above stones, there are others distinguished by the name of *Nodules*; one of which has been met with of the porphory kind, among sand-hills, in the parish of Philaç in Penwith hundred. It has a ruddy purple ground, charged with rectangular and oval granules to the eighth of an inch in diameter, nearly of the same colour with the ground; but paler and with glossy surfaces, thinly interspersed with white opaque granules of quartz, mixed with a few black specks of cockle. Another specimen had large granules but no white. Some have a blue violet purple ground, with granules of a higher colour, thinly interspersed, to one eighth of an inch in diameter. One of this last kind, which is a very beautiful stone, was brought from Mount's Bay. Dr. Woodward takes notice of a stone found near Calstock in the East hundred, finely variegated with red and white spots, and containing flakes of white talc. The Cornish call it there the Wormseed stone; because there are found in it small bodies like worm-feed.

The Drop-stone, or Stalactites, is also found in Cornwall, a specimen of which was sent to the Royal Society from Pendennis castle; and in the cave of a cliff near Holy-well, in the parish of St. Cuthbert, in the hundred of Pider, are several stalactite productions of the sparry kind. Some are gritty, and their grit is but little harder than chalk; and others are more stoney, hanging down from the roof, like the Anemone-root; they are sometimes tubular and small, with green efflorescences, and often withered. The like sparry juice forms large bunches of stone on the sides of the caves, with such varieties as to represent a pretty kind of fret-work. On the

floor it appears to be a uniform mass of the alabaster kind, and the several strata of which it is composed may be readily distinguished. The upper part of the incrustation is covered with a purple powder, which in a microscope appears to be woolly: It will ferment strongly with acids.

The Warming-stone is taken notice of by Mr. Ray, and is so called from retaining its heat a long while. Dr. Plot affirms, it gives relief in several pains, and particularly in the blind piles. The Swimming-stone, is found in a copper mine near Redruth, and consists of right-lined plates as thin as paper, intersecting each other in all directions, and leaving unequal cavities between them; for which reason it will swim in water. It is of a yellow colour, and has some resemblance to a light sort of cavernous Lapis Calaminaris.

With regard to Talc, there is one of a brown foliaceous kind found in a tin-work, in the parish of St. Just. The leaves are thin and elastic, but their figure indeterminate, and they are inserted without any order: a second sort, much more beautiful, is met with in a cliff near the Lizard. This is of an extremely thin fine texture, transparent, and of a silver hue. A third sort, which is browner, is less flexible and has larger leaves. Besides these, there is a radiated silvery talc, found in a bed of milk white tabulated quartz. Some of the rays are an inch and a quarter long, and one sixth of an inch broad. They consist of several membranes of talc, one fourth of an inch long and one sixth broad, in the shape of a peach-tree leaf. The shining gold coloured talc has micæ of a silver colour as well as of gold, but less distinct; neither of them however are elastic. They lye longitudinally, in parallel flakes, one
on

on the back of another; and between them are white cryftalline fhivers.

The folid Afbestos is a fort of talc, adhering to the pureft fpecimens of the Soap-rocks before taken notice of. The fame fubftance is fpread like enamel on the furface of the rocks expofed to the fea. It is fometimes a thin film, fhiver, or cruft; but when it is larger, and more ftoney, it will admit of a high polifh, and may be wrought into various forms, and turned into vaffes. It is akin to the ophites or ferpentine marble of the antients.

The fibrous Afbestos has been found in a ftone in the church-yard of Landowinek, in the hundred of Kerryer; the filaments are pointed, and of a fine purple colour, with a filvery gloff; they are extremely fmall and flexible, and appear through a microfcope to be edged with a foft down; of other fpecimens found in the parifh of St. Clare near Lefcard, one is of a light yellow, adhering to the outside of a green hard fandky killas. It is fhort jointed, not flexible, and runs in a wavy line through the killas. The veins of another are of the fame colour as the Mother-ftone, and from three inches to the tenth of an inch wide. This is called the whitifh brown filky Afbestos, with long continued flat filaments.

Another is the Amiantus, with foft parallel fibres eafy to be feparated; and looks like decayed willow wood. There is ftill another fort mentioned by Grew, which he calls Baffard Amiantus, this grows in clay and mundic lodes, between beds of greenifh earth, in the Cornifh mines: the threads are half an inch long, of a black gloffy colour, and brittle. There are more downy forts of this foffile, of which the antients made cloth that would bear the fire; for with this they ufed

to cover the dead bodies of princes in such a manner as to preserve their ashes entire.

In the Cornish tin mines, have been often found gems, or precious stones; but they are generally so small as not to be properly viewed without the assistance of a microscope. Among these we may mention some very high coloured topazes, and some of a paler yellow colour. Rubies have been met with of various shades, from a pale red to a deep carbuncle colour, a few of these are mixed with yellow, and may therefore be classed among the hyacinths. A curious chrysolite has also been found of a very dark green colour, with a transparency of yellow; and a very deep amethyst, a fifteenth part of an inch in length. There are also met with in these mines hexangular pebbles of the amethyst kind, tinged strongly with purple, and sometimes an inch or more in length; but those got out of the Polruddon, in the hundred of Powder, are of the finest lustre, and some of the sparks are one tenth of an inch long. Mr. Borlace says, he is possessed of a brown crystal found in this county, which has as fine a lustre as the Kerry stone in Ireland, but it is of a deeper hue.

Some crystals are tinged with green, and are of the emerald kind; those are found chiefly in a copper work in the parish of Camborn, and sold by the jewellers for occidental emeralds.

Crystals are of a sea-green or beryl colour, and called by authors the Pseudo-beryl. But the best green stone for colour and polish, is a coppery incrustation found in Huel-fortune, in the parish of Ludgvan: it is of a stratous texture, and has crust within crust, with tubercles frequently an inch in diameter, but sometimes very small; and they are either perfectly round or oval. These are of a deep green, and have naturally so a high
a polish

a polish that several gentlemen have set them in rings as taken from the mine. They are formed of a solution of copper, as appears by its running into threads and stratus incrustations.

The parts of crystal unite extremely close and firm, forming a substance harder than spar; for which reason, with proper mixtures, it becomes the basis of porphory, granite, and other compound stones. It will strike fire with steel, and of course will not ferment with aquafortis, but will vitrify with an alkaline salt. In Cornwall all the white hard opaque stone is termed spar, tho' improperly, for it is quartz, as we have already observed, that is a coarse debased crystalline body, yet is not crystal; but rather a mass of crystalline matter of no particular form.

Of this kind is the substance that fills the veins and interstices of stoney strata, and the white angular masses of singular dispersed stones common every where in Cornwall. Of this sort also are the wavey processes of crystal, which, like so many flakes of ice, incrust the perpendicular sides of the karrs of granite: also all the crystal horizontal incrustations which coat over stones, and hang in threads as they descend, reaching across the hollows from one tubercle to another. There are also crystal stalactites obtained from a work called the Pool in the parish of Illogan. However, crystals are most commonly found in an hexagonal form, and are either pyramidal with the six sides tending to a point; columnar with the shaft capped with a pyramid, or columnar with a pyramid at each end. Yet they are seldom regular; for some sides are three times as broad as the others: there are also great differences in the points and other circumstances.

When crystals have a fine clear water, they are generally called Cornish diamonds, and are thought

thought to be the best of this kind in England; but they are not all colourless, for some are yellow, brown, cloudy, opaque, white, green, purple, and black; many have also specks of many colours and magnitudes, every crystal being either pure and transparent, or receives its tinge from the adjacent mineral juices or earths. The more clear they are the heavier; but in general their weight in proportion to water, is as ten and a half to four; the heaviest are the hardest, and have their parts more closely connected; whereas the cohesion is greatly weakened and the substance becomes more brittle, by means of the earthy parts which intrude themselves. It may likewise be observed, that the clearer the Cornish crystals are, the better they will cut glass, and the more fit they are for engraving seals upon.

The texture of these coloured crystals is various; for many are uniform, and of the same colour and consistence throughout; others spring as from a centre of one common line; some have hexagonal sheaths one within another, a circumstance not easy to be accounted for. They are also frequently found in clusters, with one end fixed in a bed of coarser crystals, which has been broken off from a larger mass of still coarser materials; but the direction of columnar crystals is nearly rectangular from the plane of the bed whence they proceed.

The minerals found in Cornwall are so various, that according to the judgment of foreigners, no country exceeds it for variety and plenty. As to the semi-metals they are *bismuth*, *speltre*, *zink*, *naptba*, *antimony*, *lapis calaminaris*, and *molybdena*; of all which specimens have been found, though not sufficient to awaken the industry of the owners.

In the parish of Endelian there are several veins of antimony, mixed with a little copper and some lead. These veins run sometimes north and south, but oftener east and west, and the north and south veins are the biggest; however, when the east and west veins join or cross the former, they commonly make a bunch of ore, from one foot to two broad, all of solid antimony. It has also been found in several other places, probably thrown away as useless.

Manganese is a ferruginous mineral, made use of to temper and bring glass to its proper lustre; it has lately been discovered near Tregoss-moor, in the parish of St Colomb. The lode is 20 feet broad, and so near the surface that one ton may be raised for eighteen-pence. There is some iron in it, and a great deal of coarse lapis hæmatites. In the year 1754, a ton of this ore was sent to Liverpool, and thence to Bostam, 40 miles distant, and was there sold for five pounds eight shillings and six-pence; notwithstanding which the adventurers met with very little demand for it. In the year 1750, in a mine near the town of Penryn, several bunches of load-stone were discovered; but they had not a very strong attractive power.

Of Molybdena or black lead, there is very little; and that which was met with adhered to a stone, greatly resembling the more gritty kind of lapis calaminaris, which sometimes contains lead. Some small pieces of this are about a third of an inch in size, and will mark paper as freely as that from Cumberland. The specimens were brought from a work in the parish of Camborn, called *Huelcraffy*, where it is very probable there may be more.

In the year 1754, the Society for encouraging Arts, Manufactures and Commerce, offered a premium

mium of thirty pounds for the best cobalt discovered in England; this roused the attention of the miners, and some of it being found in Gwennap, was sent to London in December, 1754, and obtained the premium. It is well known that the different arsnick, as well as zaffer and smalt so useful for staining glass blue, and in painting, are procured from cobalt, and have hitherto been imported at a great price from foreign countries; for which reason it is to be wished this discovery may be completed. At present the Cornish men are at a loss about the method of assaying, and even distinguishing the cobalt from its various mixtures in the mine, and till it is carefully selected it will probably be of little value. In the same load there is a considerable quantity of bismuth, not only where the cobalt is, but in other parts of the mine; inso-much that it may be justly called a mine of bismuth as well as cobalt. Now as bismuth is of great use for the compounding pewter, and many thousand pounds are sent out of the kingdom yearly for the purchasing it, there is reason to hope this mine may prove valuable.

But of all the Cornish fossils, which are mineral only, and not metallic, that called Mundic is in the greatest plenty; for it is almost every where intermixed with tin, lead and copper; and is found sometimes making a load or vein by itself, without any metal near it. This is called by some a pyrites; though it is better known to naturalists by the name of Marcasite. With regard to weight and colour it seems to be a metal, and the Cornish term it Mundic from the bright shining appearance of its surface and structure. It is a semi metal, and is variously coloured on the outside with blue, green, purple, gold, silver, brass, and copper colours; but when broken it
has

has only three that are distinct; for which reason it is distinguished into the silver or plate Mundic; the brass or pyrites; the aureus of Grew, and the brown; for the rest are no more than a thin film, which water, either from its own impregnation, or the nature of the fassile it rests upon deposits on the surface. It is sometimes found in solid large glebes and plates, and often in grains and detached masses, to about two inches diameter; or lastly in micaceous granules, either loose as sand, or fixed in incrustations.

There are few copper loades without this semi-metal, and therefore in searching for copper it is reckoned a great encouragement to meet with mundic. They may be easily separated with hammers, by washing away the small parts in water, or by evaporation in a furnace; but it unites more closely with tin ores, especially when found in a lax sandy stratum, often as soft as mud; but the worst of it is, it makes the tin so brittle as to be worth little or nothing. The way to destroy this connection, is to take the tin ore, when it has been bruised and powdered in a mill, and put it into a furnace designed for roasting it, called a Burning-house. The fire must be very moderate, and the tin ore raked and stirred well every quarter of an hour, or the tin will melt and then the operation must be repeated. This in time will cause the mundic to evaporate; 500 pounds weight of black tin strongly impregnated with mundic, will take twelve hours roasting to cause the mundic to evaporate.

Mundic is thought to be a composition of arsenic, sulphur, vitriol, and mercury, and yet the water is not poisonous even in the mine where it proceeds directly from the body of the mundic load; but on the contrary it will cure wounds,
bruises

bruises and sores, if the habit of body be not very corrupt. However, mundic sometimes yields such plenty of poison, that a tinner by washing his leg in a very strong mundic water caused it to gangreen, and it soon killed him. At that time the smell of the mundic was so strong, that it made the most fresh coloured labourers pale and languid. However the mundic water is always a great enemy to fish; for the young spawn cannot live in it, and in some streams there is not a fish to be seen. Likewise mundic mixed with earth will destroy all vegetation.

When mundic has been a little burnt, it then becomes most fatal; for which reason great caution must be used in the management of the burning-house. This danger arises from dispersing the sulphur which sheathed the poisonous particles of the arsenic. They workmen are often obliged to cleanse the furnace and chimnies; but they cannot safely do it without putting a cloth before their mouth and nose. The smoke of burnt mundic is fatal to all herbs and plants, and even to the bees in all places where it falls.

Though the specific weight of mundic exceeds that of fossils, and it seems to have the texture of brass. Yet it is so full of sulphur and arsenic, that by no flux hitherto discovered can it be reduced into a metal. Mr. Boyle procured by distillation, four ounces of good brimstone from three pounds of these stones, and affirms that they contain particles of copper and iron. The white or plate mundic is heavier than every other sort, and yields not only arsenic and sulphur, but a powder resembling ultramarine.

No fossils whatever produce a greater variety of figures than mundic; some of the smallest grain are called blistered mundics; others are in high relieve, and the blisters covered with smooth hexagonal

agonal brass coloured spangles, and the fibres in some places shoot as from a center, forming a semicircular opening like the arch of a bridge. Many have a scaly surface with a radiated texture; and in fine they assume such a variety of forms, that it would take up too much room to be more particular in the description of them.

Most of the metals in Cornwall, are found in veins or fissures, and their contents are called loades. The sides or walls of these fissures, do not always consist of one and the same kind of matter, nor are they equally hard, for though one side of the fissure may be a hard stone, the other is sometimes a soft clay; yet are the walls, generally speaking, harder than the loades they inclose. They are often perpendicular, but much oftener decline to the right or left as they descend. The course of the great fissures is generally east and west; though in some places they have a north and south direction, but not exactly towards the cardinal points. They do not run in a strait line, but vary; and the curves they make are generally larger in crossing a valley. The larger fissures have many smaller branches like the boughs of a tree, which at length terminate in threads.

Of all the metals, Tin is the lightest, yet does it in this place merit our early notice, it being the most valuable production of the county. As to the antiquity of the Cornish mines, nothing certain can be said; but there is reason to believe the Phœnician colonies of Spain traded here several hundred years before Christ. These were long the principal tin mines in the world, till about the middle of the thirteenth century. A tinner of this county being disobliged by Richard earl of Cornwall, king of the Romans, went into Germany and found the same metal, teaching the

the Saxons how to distinguish, search for, and dress their tin; but the quantity is small, and the expence of raising and carrying it by land great. On the Malabar coast, in the East Indies, tin hath lately been discovered, and brought into Europe. We have also been informed, that tin has been discovered in several parts of the Spanish West Indies; but the working is neglected, because they have richer metals. Yet the Cornish tin, is still allowed to be the best in the world.

Tin is found either collected and fixed, or loose and detached. In the first case it is either in a load or floor, or interspersed in grains and bunches, in the natural rock; but in the dispersed state, it is either in single separate stones called *Shoads*, in a continued course of such stone called the *Beubeyl*, or lastly in a sandy pulverized state. Of the load notice has been already taken, and the floor is a horizontal layer of the ore; but it is not so often found in this manner as in a load. The floors are many fathoms deep and frequently rich; sometimes the same ore is a perpendicular load for several fathoms, and yet at length extends itself into a floor; these however, are not only the most expensive but the most dangerous, because they require very large and strong timbers, to secure several passages of the mine. If this is neglected it may happen to sink in, as did the ground at Bal-an-Uun, for a large compass, and buried all the men below within its reach.

Tin ore is also found dispersed in spots and bunches in the body of the stone, and when in granite, they are sometimes so large and numerous that they will make the tinner amends, though he is obliged to blow up the rock, and afterwards break it with sledges to get at the tin. When there are any such pieces of tin in the *blue Elvan* stone, it is not to be obtained; for they cannot
break

break it to pieces with gun-powder, or pierce it with iron. Tin is also found, as we have already observed, scattered in single stones, which sometimes lie a furlong or more distant from their loades, and are frequently collected together in great numbers, in one continued course for two feet deep, which they call a Stream. When the stones contain a good quantity of tin, they are called in the Cornish language *Beuheyl*, that is a living stream. For the same reason when a stone has a small appearance of tin they say it is just alive; but when it has no metal they affirm it to be dead. One stream of tin was found in the tenement of Douran, in the parish of St. Just, in 1738. There are also several streams in St. Stephens, Branel; St. Ewe, St. Blasely, and other places; but the most considerable is that of St. Austel moor, which is a valley about a furlong in breadth, running near three miles from the town of St. Austel southward to the sea. In one of the workings there were lately found, about 8 feet under the surface, two slabs or small blocks of melted tin, of about twenty-eight pounds each. These are thought to be as old as the time when the Jews had engrossed the tin manufacture in the reign of king John.

Tin is not unfrequently found among the slime and sands of rivers, and on the sea shore, as in some creeks of Falmouth harbour, where it seems to be washed from the hills. Sometimes even the open sea throws up the same metal in a pulverized state, which probably proceeds from loades lying near the sea, and having their upper parts fretted by the waves, or thrown by storms among the sands.

The run of a load of tin is frequently discovered by the barrenness of the surface of the ground, and the want or weakness of the grass
in

in a particular furrow. Thus in the tenement of Trenethick, in the parish of St. Agnes, though the field is equally cultivated in every part, you may distinguish the course of the load by the unequal growth of the grass; but the surest indication of tin found in cliffs and caverns, is where the load lies bare to the depth of some fathoms, its several stages may be easily examined.

No one is allowed to search for tin when and where he pleases, without first having obtained leave of the lord of the soil, except upon a wastrel or common; where he may mark out bounds observing the legal forms, and search for tin. These bounds are the limits of particular portions of ground containing more or less than an acre, they dig little pits about a foot wide and the same depth, at the extrem angles of certain parcels of land, by drawing strait lines from which the extent of these bounds are determined.

When the load is found, the miner must first dispose of the barren rock and rubble; discharge the water, which abounds more or less in every load, and lastly raise the tin. The arts necessary for mining are many, and almost every mine requires a peculiar management; for which reason it can only be learnt by practice and experience. Various engines are required; but the most powerful of all hitherto invented is the fire engine, lately erected in many parts of England, for draining water out of coal pits and other places.

When the tin ore is obtained, it is carried to the stamping mill, and laid on the floor; unless it be full of clammy slime, when it is thrown into a pit hard by, called the Buddle, to make it stamp the freer, without choaking the grate. If the ore is not slimy, it is shovelled forward into a sloping

a sloping channel of timber, called the Pass; whence it slides by its own weight, and the assistance of a small rill of water into a box, where, by the lifters falling on it, after being raised by the axle-tree, which is turned by the water wheel, it is pounded or stamped small; and to assist the attrition, a rill of water keeps the ore perpetually wet and the stamp heads cool, till the ore in the box is pulverized. The grate is a thin plate of iron, about the tenth of an inch thick, one foot square and full of holes, which will admit a pin, but they are not always of the same size. From this grate the tin is carried by a small gutter into the fore-pit, where it makes its first and purest settlement; for the lighter parts run forward with the waters through the holes made in the partition, into the middle pit; and from thence into another. The fore pit is emptied when full, and the contents carried to the buddle, which is a pit seven feet long, three broad, and two deep. The dresser standing in the buddle spreads the pulverized ore in small ridges, parallel to the run of the water, which enters the buddle at the top, and falling equally over a cross bar, washes the slime from the ridges which are moved to and fro with a shovel. By this and some other means, the buddle is filled with different sorts of tin, and that next the head is the finest. It would take up too much room to describe the whole of this process, such therefore of our readers as are particularly curious to know it, we must refer to the account published by Mr. Borlase, to whom we are indebted for the chief part of what is written on this subject.

The tin being dressed, as they call it, it is carried in sacks upon horses, under the general name of Black Tin to the melting house, where it is assayed, and melted in a reverberatory furnace,

in a particular furrow. Thus in the tenement of Trenethick, in the parish of St. Agnes, though the field is equally cultivated in every part, you may distinguish the course of the load by the unequal growth of the grass; but the surest indication of tin found in cliffs and caverns, is where the loades lying bare to the depth of some fathoms, its several stages may be easily examined.

No one is allowed to search for tin when and where he pleases, without first having obtained leave of the lord of the soil, except upon a wastrel or common; where he may mark out bounds observing the legal forms, and search for tin. These bounds are the limits of particular portions of ground containing more or less than an acre, they dig little pits about a foot wide and the same depth, at the extream angles of certain parcels of land, by drawing strait lines from which the extent of these bounds are determined.

When the load is found, the miner must first dispose of the barren rock and rubble; discharge the water, which abounds more or less in every load, and lastly raise the tin. The arts necessary for mining are many, and almost every mine requires a peculiar management; for which reason it can only be learnt by practice and experience. Various engines are required; but the most powerful of all hitherto invented is the fire engine, lately erected in many parts of England, for draining water out of coal pits and other places.

When the tin ore is obtained, it is carried to the stamping mill, and laid on the floor; unless it be full of clammy slime, when it is thrown into a pit hard by, called the Buddle, to make it stamp the freer, without choaking the grate. If the ore is not slimy, it is shovelled forward into
a sloping

a sloping channel of timber, called the Pass; whence it slides by its own weight, and the assistance of a small rill of water into a box, where, by the lifters falling on it, after being raised by the axle-tree, which is turned by the water wheel, it is pounded or stamped small; and to assist the attrition, a rill of water keeps the ore perpetually wet and the stamp heads cool, till the ore in the box is pulverized. The grate is a thin plate of iron, about the tenth of an inch thick, one foot square and full of holes, which will admit a pin, but they are not always of the same size. From this grate the tin is carried by a small gutter into the fore-pit, where it makes its first and purest settlement; for the lighter parts run forward with the waters through the holes made in the partition, into the middle pit; and from thence into another. The fore pit is emptied when full, and the contents carried to the buddle, which is a pit seven feet long, three broad, and two deep. The dresser standing in the buddle spreads the pulverized ore in small ridges, parallel to the run of the water, which enters the buddle at the top, and falling equally over a cross bar, washes the slime from the ridges which are moved to and fro with a shovel. By this and some other means, the buddle is filled with different sorts of tin, and that next the head is the finest. It would take up too much room to describe the whole of this process, such therefore of our readers as are particularly curious to know it, we must refer to the account published by Mr. Borlase, to whom we are indebted for the chief part of what is written on this subject.

The tin being dressed, as they call it, it is carried in sacks upon horses, under the general name of Black Tin to the melting house, where it is assayed, and melted in a reverberatory furnace,

nace, with a fire of pit coal brought from Wales; but this fire is not so good as one of wood; they have also a place for melting tin called the Blowing House, and what is melted there sells for more than that done by the furnace. When melted, it is conveyed into quadrangular moulds of stone, containing about 320 pounds weight of metal, and the block, as it is then called, is carried to the coinage town.

Five towns are appointed for this purpose, in the most convenient part of the county, to which the tanners bring their tin every quarter of a year. At the coinage town the officers assay it, by taking off a piece of about a pound weight from the under part of the block, partly by cutting and partly by breaking; if they find it well purified, they stamp the face of the block with the impression of the seal of the dutchy, which authorises the owner to sell it. The coinage towns are Lescard, Lostweithiel, Truro, Helston, and Penzance. This stamping the tin with a hammer is called coinage; and every hundred of white tin so coined, pays to the duke of Cornwall four shillings before it can be disposed of. The price of the tin of the whole county, on an average for fourteen years, had been computed at the sum of 180,000 pounds sterling. Of this the duke of Cornwall receives, on account of the duty, at least 10,000 pounds yearly; and the bounders and proprietors of the soil receive about one sixth of the whole value, which may be reckoned at about 30,000 pounds yearly.

In ancient times they used polished tin for mirrors, as we do now looking glasses. It now serves for tinning or lining brass and copper, for soldering pipe and sheet lead, for making latten, bell metal, and hard wares, and for lining looking-glasses; but its most important use is in making pewter,

pewter, now to be met with in every house. Tin is also used in surgery, medicine, and painting.

Cornwall has been long known to abound with tin, yet has it been of very little advantage to the land owners till within about 90 years.

We are told, that in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, the only iron mines we had in England were in Gloucestershire, which is somewhat surprising, as it is very certain the Romans opened iron mines in other parts of the Island; this appears to be very evident from some Roman coins, found fresh and rough under large heaps of cinders, which have of late years been wrought over again for iron, with good profit. We have now indeed iron loads in many parts of the kingdom, so that it is not at all wonderful there should be no demand for iron ore from Cornwall; neither is this any great disadvantage to the county in general; for the tin, copper, tillage and fishing, with the several branches of trade which are immediately dependant on them, afford sufficient employment for all the inhabitants. With respect to iron, we shall, on the above account, in this place say only a few words.

In iron mines a kind of ochre is often found, the value of which is according to the different degrees of its purity, and the best is much used by the painters. Now if this can be met with in any considerable quantity, it may to great advantage be substituted instead of what is at present brought from France. Iron is sometimes formed by dropping from the roofs of caves where it becomes a lump of tubular parallel stems, which hang side by side in the same manner as mundics do. At other times it is found in the form and size of musket bullets, each fixed in its nidus; but never detached and perfectly globular. It is now and then blistered into round tubercles, and

frequently formed into the exact shape of a button portuberant in the middle. In both these last cases it is called the button-ore. This ore is met with in Cornwall near Truro, consisting of parallel plates, which break into a very shining and glossy surface; and a coarse false kind of iron ore, called *kal*, is found in most parts of Cornwall, which last promotes the fusion and toughness of tin, especially where mundic abounds.

We shall next say a few words on the subject of copper, of which metal there are some very rich mines in this county. Copper is sometimes found deposited on the sides of fissures in thin films, which are nothing more than the sediment of waters, proceeding from some copper load; they are at other times met with in spots and bunches irregularly dispersed; but are mostly in figures in the same manner as the tin loads. Veins of copper are often seen in cliffs, where they are laid bare by the sea, it being much more easily discovered than tin. But the most encouraging leader to copper is called *goffan*, which is an earthy, ruddy, crumbling, ochreous stone, like the rust of iron; and where the ground is inclinable to an easy free blue *killas*, intermixed with white clay, the miner thinks it a promising sign. A white cristaline stone is also accounted very retentive of yellow copper. The ore does not lie at any certain depth; but it is a general rule, that when copper is found in any fissure, the load should be sunk upon, because it commonly proves best at some depth. The most ordinary ore is of a brass colour adhering to all kinds of stones; but purest in the white opaque crystal or in white clay, and according to the quantity of the barren stone intermixed with it, this sells from five to fifteen pounds a ton. Some of this yellow ore, not only looks
like

like mundic in texture, but is formed into cubes, and will bear aqua fortis without fermenting, this sells for eighteen pounds a ton; but the best sort of yellow is the flake ore, which is smooth and glossy as glass, and not so brittle as the former. It is found in thin distinct strata and masses; with its under parts of a blistered, buttonny surface.

Of the green ores, some are as light as a feather, consisting of verdegrise only, others are more solid and strong, and consist of a thick incrustation of a deep velvet green colour. One sort is very heavy, and nothing of stone or rust appears; the texture consists of small shining parallel striæ and is as glossy as tallow, but this kind is extremely rare. Some of these sorts are flaky, with a close contexture, often cohering in tubes as it drops, and forming a richer, closer, and more polished surface; this is a curious kind.

Of the blue ores, there is one of an extremely fine blue earth, with a small grit; but it never exceeds the bigness of a bean, seeming to be a powder of the lapis lazuli. The grey ore is often spotted with yellow and purple; but when it is an uniform lead colour throughout, it is the richest, and is worth between fifty and sixty pounds a ton.

Copper ore often appears like a blue black earth of the colour of indigo, interlaced with an opaque base crystal. There is also a more solid kind of black copper ore, which is very heavy, and blistered into large tubercles. The red ore is mixed with glassy speckles, and is called *fire ore*. It is generally met with in small detached glebes from a bed of coarse ochre, and sometimes covered with a crust of stony green copper. It is very heavy, and more valuable than any of the rest.

The most perfect copper ore is the malleable, which from its purity is called the Virgin ore; and is found in small quantities in all the considerable copper mines, it is frequently mixed with base granulated crystal, and sometimes with gossan; at other times it is blended with white gravelly clay, or is found in rubble, or the rust of iron, but its shape is very various.

With regard to the digging, there is no great difference between the copper works and those of tin; but the method of dressing, or preparing the metal for sale, is very different. There are belonging to the copper mines, overseers, called underground Captains, who are appointed to superintend the labouring miners, to see all the richer sort of ores kept together in the bottom, and afterwards raised as unmixed as may be. The best is broken small with hammers, or brought away to the adjacent Bucking-mills, where they bruise it on a rock with a short bar of iron, and carry it to the heap of best ore. The best small ore is washed and sifted into a tub, as near the shaft as possible, first through an iron riddle with meshes about half an inch square. In short the different sorts of ore are broken and raised, sized, washed, stamped, and sorted into particular heaps, for about one tenth part of the whole produce when sold. The price is according to the quality of the ores; and the agents for the copper companies of Wales and Bristol, who reside at Truro and Redruth, attend to sample the ore, in consequence of which, after assaying it, the value of each pile is determined. After this it is shipped off to the above places to be melted and refined. The greatest work of this kind was that of Heulvirgin, in the parish of Gwenas, which began to be worked in July and August, 1757. In the first fortnight's working they got as much copper
as

C O R N W A L L. 101

as sold for 5700 pounds; and in the next week and two days, as much as sold for 9600 pounds.

It has been asserted that in the reign of Edward the first, and Edward the third, plenty of silver was found in Cornwall, yet has it since been several times searched after without success, and it has not been known that silver was ever found by itself above once in this county, and that was of about the size of a walnut, in Huelcock, a copper work in the parish of St. Just.

But mines of lead have been worked in Cornwall, not only in former times but at this day. The mines at Perof's near Helston, have been wrought above 200 years, and have yielded tolerable profit within this 40 years; the ore is chiefly of that sort called Potter's ore, but it is sometimes yellow. Dr. Woodward mentions an ore found at Guarnah in the parish of St. Allen, near Truro, which he affirms to be blue, and very rich in silver. This ore when only dressed, sells for eight pounds a ton, which is about the value of the lead itself. A ton of this lead yields 140 ounces of silver according to the same author.

Lead is mostly of a greenish blue colour in the mine, but there are of several sorts; the potter's ore consists of a shining, rectangular, tabulated structure, which breaks into granules of a parallelopiped form; when lead is cheap, this ore sells for about six pounds a ton. The ore which is flaky, smooth, and has a glossy texture, and will not break into cubical lines, contains a greater quantity of lead. There is also a very close grained ore, which breaks into an uneven sparkling surface like a great tissue, this is very rich in silver; but is scarce in Cornwall.

Lead is also found involved and hidden in spar, some of which is like a pumice stone; some granulated,

nulated, and others of a fibrous striated texture, like the splinters of a bone glewed together, of a brownish colour; of these however, we shall say no more, as they are not found in Cornwall. In general, if lead ore will yield 75 pounds out of 100, it is reckoned very rich; but if it yields only 40 it is not worth working; however it is observable, that the ore which is poor in lead, will sometimes yield plenty of silver.

The lead veins in Cornwall, run for the most part east and west; but they are neither so large nor so lasting as those in some parts of Wales and Derbyshire, insomuch that though lead has been discovered in many parts of this county, there is yet no lead mine of note in it, except that of St. Issy near Padstow.

No quicksilver has yet been discovered in Cornwall; but this is perhaps more owing to the inattention and negligence of the miners, than any thing else; for as it is not to be seen in a perfect state, they never search for it in cinnabar, which is its proper ore, nor in the saffron-coloured and blackish stones, in which it is sometimes found.

Pure virgin gold has been met with in this county; for in the year 1753, as some miners were streaming for tin, in the parish of Creed, near the borough of Grampount, they perceived some grains of a yellow colour, which though small, were so heavy as to resist the water. Picking out the largest grains, they carried them to a melting-house, where, upon assaying the ore, it was found to yield plenty of fine gold. Upon this the miners took out of their pockets several pieces of fine virgin gold; and among them a stone as large as a walnut, with a vein of pure gold about the size of a goose-quill running through it. All these put together, produced an ounce of pure gold. The tanners in the adjacent parishes hearing of it took
the

the hint, and had better success in finding it. At another place they found native virgin gold immersed in the substance of a blue sandy slate, and several gentlemen in the county have pieces of it, valued severally at twenty-seven shillings, fifteen shillings, and many less.

About the year 1747, a foreigner established a vitriol manufactory near Redruth; the water was collected from places where tin was burnt in order to discharge its mundic; and where copper ores were most usually washed. This water was first put into a large leaden cistern where it remained till it was clear; it was then conveyed into a leaden boiler, and kept boiling with a gentle fire for seven or eight days, till a pelicle was formed; after which, the water being drawn off through a cock into a leaden cistern, the salts would shoot round the sides of the vessel; and pieces of timber were also thrown in for the purpose of collecting them. In three, four, or five days time, about eight tons of this water would yield a ton of fine blue vitriol, worth near eighty pounds; and the expence attending it did not exceed fifty pounds. The materials for making this salt are so cheap, and in such plenty, that the whole kingdom might be supplied with vitriol from Cornwall alone.

Mr. Borlace is of opinion, that there are clays in this county proper for the making of porcelain, as well as ochres and other earths to paint it; water mills might be easily procured, and there is water carriage from London and Bristol on either side of the county, which considerations are sufficient encouragements for setting up a manufactory in Cornwall. Sea salt might also be made here as well as in France; because the materials are the same, and in equal plenty in both counties; besides it is well known that the bay-salt made in Hampshire, is not inferior to

the bay-salt of Bretagne. There is a place in the parish of Senan, about half a mile north of in the Lands End, where the traces of salt works carried on in the last age are still to be seen.

We shall next describe the birds that are to be met with in Cornwall, which are in any respect peculiar to it. We may for this purpose divide the birds into two sorts; first, those that are perennial, or stay constantly all the year round in the same country; secondly, such as are migratory, which depart at certain stated seasons, and return after a fixed time of absence. Of the first sort are Hawks, as *Matlions*, *Spar-hawks*, or *Sparrow-hawks*, *Hobbies*, and in some places *Lannards*. But the most remarkable bird in this county, is the *Cornish Chough*, always met with here, though it is but little known in other places. It is however found among the Alps, in the Island of Candia, in the Cyclades, on the sea coast of Cork in Ireland, in Wales, and in some few other places. This bird generally weighs about 12 or 13 ounces, and is in length from the tip of the bill to the end of the tail seventeen inches, but to the end of the claws, sixteen inches, and its breadth, when the wings are extended, is thirty-three inches and a half. Its cry is like that of a Jackdaw, but more hoarse, and it is of the same shape, though almost as large as a Crow. Its bill, legs, and feet are red; but the feathers all over the body are black. It is remarkable for the unusual softness of its voice when it applies for meat, to those who commonly feed and fondle it; and on the contrary it has a frightful shriek at the approach of any thing strange. It is kept tame about the houses, and will steal and hide money, or any shining showy things that fall in its way; though it is not quite so unlucky as a jack-daw. It builds its nest upon inaccessible cliffs,

cliffs, and in the middle of the steepest rocks. Some call it the Slander of the country; but the ancient inhabitants were of a different opinion, because they bore these birds in their coats of arms.

The singing birds in this county are *Thrushes*, *Blackbirds*, *Throstles*, and the much larger and better coloured *Missel bird*, or *Shrite*, which in Cornwall is called the Holm Thrush. The Cornish call the Holly-tree, Holm; and consequently this bird has its name from feeding on holly berries in the winter. There are also green and brown *Linnets*, *Gold Finches*, *Ruddocks*, *Bullfinches*, and *Larks*, but what is very remarkable they have no *Nightingales*.

The Green Woodpecker is a beautiful bird, being remarkable for a vermilion crown on the top of its head, and the different shades of green in the body and wings. One of them was killed at Godolphin, in October 1757. The Golden-crowned Wren is the least bird seen in Cornwall, and is admired for its beautiful saffron colour, and scarlet crest, as well as the smallness of its body. The *Pitteril* of Catesby, or the little *Peterel* of Edwards, is also sometimes met with here. This bird is also called the Storm-finch: Catesby in describing it says, it is about the size of a Chaffinch, and that the whole bird, except the rump, which is white, is of a dusky brown colour, the back being somewhat darker than the belly. The bill is half an inch long, slender, dark brown, and crooked at the end; upon opening the head, the nostrils were found to consist of two parallel tubes, running half way up the mandible of the bill, and forming a protuberance thereon. The wings extended an inch beyond the tail, and the legs were slender, with webbed feet, and a small claw or nail on each heel, without a toe. They rove all over the Atlantic ocean, and are

seen on the coasts of America, as well as on those of Europe, many hundred leagues from each shore. Their appearance, as the sailors believe, forebodes a storm; and in reality they are never seen except the sea is in agitation. They use their wings and feet with surprising swiftness; the former are long, and resemble those of swallows, and they fly in a direct line. They are generally seen skimming swiftly on the surface of the waves when they are most in agitation. Mr. Edwards thinks it strange that this bird should subsist at such a distance from land, where it cannot rest but on the water; for it never appears near the shore, or ships, but in tempestuous weather. These birds flutter so near the surface of the water, that they seem to walk upon it; and some think they are called Peterels from St. Peter's walking on the sea.

In September, 1755, an uncommon bird was seen in this county, which from the tip of the bill to the end of the tail was ten inches, and the breadth of the wings when extended, was twenty-one inches. The bill was flattish, thin, three tenths of an inch long, somewhat crooked, and would open to the width of two inches and a half. The mouth was of a ruddy colour within, and the eye was black and large in proportion to the bill. The tail was five inches long, consisting of ten feathers of equal length. It had four toes of which the middlemost was seven eighths of an inch long; the legs were only five eighths. Its colour was between that of a sparrow-hawk and a woodcock; but the ground of the whole was somewhat more inclining to a black. It weighed two ounces and a half and four penny weights. It was dull and quiet by day, but noisy and clamorous by night. It seems to be the same as the Fern owl
of

of Shropshire, and the Churn owl of Yorkshire, from the noise it makes when it flies.

Of Migratory birds there are *swallows*; and Carew affirms that they have been found in the western parts of Cornwall in old deep tin works, and holes of the sea cliffs. But this circumstance being questioned by some naturalists, and as confidently asserted by others, we shall not enlarge on the subject. *Woodcocks* are reckoned birds of passage, yet do they not always leave the country to which they occasionally resort; for some gentlemen hunting in the neighbourhood of Penzance, in the summer of 1755, flushed a Woodcock; and going to the bush it flew out of, they found a nest in it, with two eggs therein; one of these being taken away and put under a pigeon, in a few days a living bird was discovered in it, with feathers on. *Snipes* that have just left their nests, are also often put up on Bodman Downs.

Of water and sea fowls there are *Coots*, *Sanderlings*, *Sea-larks* *Sea-pies*, and of *Puffins* great plenty in the season; these last are extremely fat, but have so fishy a taste, that some have salted them to eat as fish. There are all sorts of *Gulls*, *Mews*, *Tarrocks*, *Gannets*, *Murres*, *Heron*s, *Biter*ns, *Lapwings*, *Curlews*, *Bernacles*, and *Shaggs*, which in the north are called *Cranes* and *Didapers*.

In Cornwall there are more of those insects, which require moderate warmth than in any other part of England, of which the smallest are food to the larger, and these to others of greater size; the largest of all serve to nourish birds and reptiles. The number of insects belonging to the water is probably greater than those on the land; but the excessive quantity of both will not allow us to enter into particulars; however, it will not be improper to take notice of some.

The

The *Polypes* of Cornwall are found in great numbers enclosed in alcyoniums, coralines, corals, marbles and other stones; as also in some branchy fucuses; for when these are fixed to the rock on which they grow, they have a most beautiful bluish purple at the extremity of the branches; but taken out of the water, they appear of the brown common sea wreck colour, which may probably proceed from the polypes, or at least some other animalcules contracting themselves into their cells as soon as taken out of the water; this however deserves farther enquiry. In fact there is scarce any plant or soft stone in the sea without some polype or other in it.

The *Alcyonium* is of a middle nature, between the herbaceous and horny submarine. It appears to be fleshy, and sometimes as hard as a gristle. It is not always of the same shape, though for the most part tubular, and generally inhabited by animalcules. There was one of a curious form dredged up in Falmouth harbour in 1755; which was brown and thin, and was the ground on which the insects had placed themselves in ranks, in the shape of a rose, making a kind of border round the stem of an old large fucus. Each row had from five to twelve, but more generally eight leaves, and each leaf an aperture in it, supposed to be the mouth; but in the center was an opening larger than the rest, within which somewhat like fibres were perceived to move. There was another, different from this, found in Mount's Bay, the rock was coated with a transparent callous substance about six inches broad, but in another two feet square, it was about one sixth of an inch thick, and the ground was dark green. The flowers consisted of ten obtuse petals which were of a lively yellow green colour; each petal had two

two specks, through which might be seen the colour of the ground, and they both together seemed to form a pretty piece of tapestry.

In 1752, there was found among a parcel of sea plants, a *Sea-slug*, as smooth and slimy as the land slug, pointing forth its eyes on its feelers; it moved like the dew snail, or land slug; but had this peculiarity, namely, that it emitted a most beautiful purple colour.

A long worm was met with near Careg-killas, in Mount's bay, somewhat of the nature of the eel kind of fishes, it was of a brown colour, and as slender as a wheat straw; it measured five feet in length, and was so tender that it would not bear moving without breaking; however, in the water it could contract itself to half its length.

Of the reptiles in Cornwall, the *Adder*, or *Viper* is as remarkable as any; its bite is attended with instant swelling, and is very dangerous if a remedy be not immediately applied. At Barton-house near Stratton, there have been 300 of their eggs taken at a time, laid in rotten horse dung. One snake or serpent has been killed four feet two inches long; and in the year 1757, another about four feet long. The country people have observed two sorts, one of which has a white garland round its neck, and a sharp tail like the point of a rush, and the other kind has a yellow garland, with a shorter and blunter tail. There is another species of serpents, which the people here call the Long-cripple; it is thought to be the slow-worm or deaf-adder of authors; its bite is poisonous, though not so bad as that of the viper.

Though we intend to say something of the quadrupedes of Cornwall, we shall not detain the reader long on the subject.

The sheep of this county were formerly remarkably small, and their wool coarse like hair; but

but when cultivation began to take place, the cattle improved both in size and goodness; and at present, finding themselves under a necessity, from the scarcity of tin, of applying themselves to husbandry, there are sheep with as fine wool, and as large as in any part of England; hence there is plenty of wool in most parts of the county, which has been generally sold to chapmen who travel on purpose to buy it; for it is neither carded, spun, nor woven, except in very few places. However, some public spirited gentlemen have at length promoted a woollen manufactory in the town of Penryn, seated in Falmouth harbour; and its different branches already employ above 600 people. The wool is not indeed always sold to the above chapmen, absolutely unmanufactured, for in some parts of the county the common people wash, card, and spin their own wool, and bring their yarn to the markets of Launceston, Camelford, and other places in the neighbourhood of St. Columb in Roseland, and St. Kevern; their sheep are large, and bring a great price; but the best and sweetest mutton is that of the small sheep, which usually feed on the commons, where the lands are scarcely covered with the green sod, and the grass is exceedingly short. From these lands come forth snails of the turbinated kind, and of all sizes, which appear early in the morning, and then yield a most fattening nourishment to sheep.

In some of the hilly rocky districts there are goats, whose kids are easily fattened, and are then brought to market.

In coarse grounds the black cattle are small, for in the summer months they live mostly upon heath and furze; but in large tenements where the soil is improved, and the owner chuses to breed them, they have as large cattle as elsewhere;
and

and with these the markets are well supplied, particularly of the larger towns, as Bodman, Helston, and Penzance. Calves are generally sold too soon for the butchers to make fine veal; because there is a great demand for milk and butter.

The Cornish horses though low, are strong limbed, and fit for the rough, hard, stony, Cornish roads, they are consequently more serviceable, and sure footed, than those brought from the eastern counties. A strong, punch, spirited horse, is generally called a *Gunhilly*, from a wild down of that name, extending almost from Helston to the Lizard point, which was formerly famous for such little horses.

There were anciently plenty of deer in this county, but now red deer are seldom seen; some however, make their appearance from the hilly downs about Bodman, whence they go to the woods upon the moors; and they are found in great plenty in the north, between Lancelton and Stratton, that is in the north east part of the county. There are also *Badgers*, *Otters*, *Hares*, *Foxes*, *Rabbits*, and other wild quadrupedes common to all parts of England, of which there is nothing remarkable to be said; only we may observe, that foxes are sometimes made so tame, as to follow their masters about like spaniels; and there is an instance of a hare that would take bread out of any man's hand, and was in all respects as gentle, free, and easy as a lap-dog; but what was more remarkable, the master of the house, had an old spaniel and greyhound, both of which were fond of hare hunting, and had sometimes killed them without the direction of the huntsman; yet were these dogs so accustomed to this hare, that they would lie close to each other by the same fire.

The

The forest trees of Cornwall, are generally situated round the dwellings of the inhabitants, these are oak, ash, and elm; but there are no willows in vales, nor beeches and other tall trees upon the hills. At present, however, no gentleman builds a house, without allotting a proportion of ground for his forest trees and gardens; there are also several plantations lately raised, and laid out in a more unconfined and rural manner than formerly; insomuch that many trees unknown to the last generation are now introduced. Likewise of late years fruit trees are as much cultivated as those of the forest; for there is no gentlemen without peaches and nectarines; but apricocks will not thrive well in the western parts. Cherries, pears, and apples have also been cultivated within the memory of man, and a great deal of cyder made. Some have thought of planting vines, but have been hindered by the wetness of the autumnal season, which is not at all proper for grapes; yet hot gardens have been much improved of late years.

Though forest trees do not now grow in a wild, natural, and uncultivated state in this county, yet it is certain there were formerly woods in it; for here, as well as in other parts of England, fossil trees have been found; particularly in the year 1740, when a marshy piece of ground was drained on the banks of the river Heyle, in Penwith, several pieces of oak were found buried four feet deep in a fast clay. One large trunk of a tree was met with about ten feet long; but it had no branches, and its colour was very black, yet the timber was hard and firm, and had suffered little or no decay. In the year 1750, John Roberts, of the parish of Senan, digging for tin near Velindrith, found at the depth of thirty feet, an entire skeleton, about the size of that of a large deer;

deer ; but the bones were quite different. It lay on its side, and near it, on a parallel line, was a tree twenty feet long, and about as thick as a man's wrist ; great numbers of leaves were on the branches, and their impression was plain on the earth. The tree was of the oak kind, and so soft in some parts that the shovel stuck to it, but it was extremely hard at the knots and spurs. Not far from the skeleton was a deer's horn, two feet and a half long, and thicker than a man's wrist, with branched antlers. One of the knobs was as large as a man's fist, and it crumbled to dust as soon as touched. Mr. Borlase had a tooth taken from the skeleton. Several other pieces of deers or elks horns were found in the same place, in the year 1753, twenty feet under the surface.

Another sort of fossile trees is sometimes found in lakes bogs, and harbours, in whole groves together ; which perhaps may be owing to the subsidence of the ground occasioned by earthquakes. On the strand of Mount's-bay, between the piers of St. Michael's Mount and Penzance, the remains of a wood were discovered in 1757 ; which according to tradition, anciently covered a large track of ground on the edge of Mount's-bay. The lands had been forced off the shore by a violent sea, and had left several places bare, the length of twenty yards and ten in breadth ; which gave an opportunity of making the discovery. The earth about the trees is black, cold, and marshy, and covered over with a thin layer of sand. The place where Mr. Borlase found the trees, he observes, is covered with water twelve feet high when the tide is in ; whence he concludes they must have stood twelve feet higher than at present.

It has by some been asserted, that no sweet-brier is to be found in Cornwall, but this Mr. Borlase

Borlase has proved to be a mistake. The ancient inhabitants had the elder tree in great esteem, and several villages receive their name from it, which perhaps might be owing to the scarcity of trees. They now make a pickle of the flower buds, of a very good flavour. The flowers when they begin to blow, communicate their taste and smell to vinegar; and when infused in the best Florence oil for some time, they are excellent for bruises and external swellings; besides, the flowers in their natural state, are very sudorifick and assuage pains; and the distilled water is good for inflammations of the eyes. There is also a spirit to be drawn from the elder, which the late duke of Somerset took for the gout with success. The syrrup of the rich juice of the berries, is good in colds and fevers; the bark pared off close to the wood of the younger sappy branches, makes a good salve for scalds.

Green-house shrubs may be preserved in Cornwall, with less care than in any other part of England, and without heat. Myrtles are kept out in the open air all winter, as well as geraniums and foreign jessamine, unless the cold is extream. In January, 1737, tuberoses, jonquils, and the small pearl aloe were in high blossom; the two first in a house, and the last in a garden. The great American aloe blossomed in a garden, near Mount's Bay, in 1757.

Herbs and plants, for the kitchen-garden, are ready for use early in the spring, and with a little care subsist all the winter, even when pot-herbs of all kinds are destroyed by the frost in the eastern counties. Esculent roots are neither hurt by the canker nor frost, till the plants of the spring render them unnecessary. Flowers will thrive and flourish here as well as in any part of England, few of the roots miscarrying in the frost;

frost; and in the spring the flowers are so luxuriant, that upon the stem of a single polyanthus there have been found 350 blossoms.

We must not omit to mention a few of the hill and hedge plants, which either abound in this county, or are peculiar to it.

On the sea coasts we find the *Stone Crop-tree*, or *Shrubby Glasswort*, called by Ray, *Blitum fruticosum maritimum, vermicularis fruticosum dictum*. This is propagated in the nurseries for sale, chiefly because the leaves remain all the year, for the flowers are small, and not beautiful; it is propagated by suckers, will thrive almost any where, and may be transplanted either in spring or autumn.

A remarkable sort of *Stone-crop*, about four feet high, was found in an old cellar in Senan, near the Land's End, it is called by Ray *Sedum majus Arborescens Vulgare*, and a smaller sort of it grows on old, damp, shady walls at Godolphin. *Wood Sage*, or *Wild Sage*, *Scordium alterum, sive Salvia Agrestis*. C. B. is found at St. Michael's Mount.

A kind of *Mercury*, with leaves like spinach, called by Ray *Mercurialis annua glabra Vulgaris*, to be met with in this county, has been found effectual in curing sore breasts: and a salve made with it, by a lady, cured one with nineteen holes in it. *Arsmart*, *Persicaria*, when distilled, has been found excellent in gravelly complaints.

Chamomile, *Anthemis, foliis pinnatto-compositis, linearibus, acutis subvillosis. Lin.* grows commonly in most parts of the county. The leaves and flowers of this plant, are frequently employed externally, in discutient and antiseptic fomentations; and in emollient and carminative clysters. From the experiments made on them, by Dr. Pringle, they appear to stand very high in the scale of antisepticks; the soluble part of the
flowers

flowers resisting the putrefaction of animal flesh, with a power at least one hundred and twenty times greater than sea salt. The other uses of chamomile flowers are in general well known; but it may be proper to remark, that the single flowers possess much more medicinal virtue than those which are double, yet the last are generally used, as being most easily procured in the markets.

Sheeps sorrel, called by Miller, *Acetosa foliis lanceolato-hastatis radice repente*, was found in 1754, on the north side of St. Michael's Mount; it possesses nearly the same virtue as common sorrel, being sometimes made use of for abating heat, quenching thirst, and preventing or correcting a tendency to putrefaction in febrile and scorbutic disorders. The *sun-dew*, *Ros Solis*, is frequently found in this county. It receives its name from a speck of water, that remains in the middle of the leaf, on the driest day. It is very fatal to sheep, for when they feed upon it, they pine and dye; for which reason the farmer, in other places, name it the Red-drop. But this is not owing to the nature of the herb, but to an insect or worm, which feeds upon the plant. It grows in shallow, marshy grounds, and on some of the moors.

The *Black Whortle-berry*, *Vitis Idæa foliis oblongis crenatis, fructu, migricante*, C. B. grows in the spongy parts of heathy grounds in this county; they are by some called Bilberries; and black whorts, being eaten with cream, or milk, and made into tarts, in the north of England, where they abound. It is said a pleasant wholesome wine may be made of the expressed juice of the fruit, with a small admixture of sugar.

Marsh Asparragus, termed by Miller, *Asparagus caule ærmi herbaceo foliisteretibus longioribus fasciculatis*, this plant grows on the cliffs at the

the Lizard point, though Miller seemed to be of opinion it was not to be found in a wild state in England, and indeed it may not, perhaps, be found in the eastern or northern parts of the island, where the temperature of the air is much colder than at the Lizard.

Common fennel, Foeniculum Vulgare Germanicum, C. B. grows spontaneously in the extream parts of Cornwall near the sea, though in other parts of the kingdom, it is generally planted and cultivated in gardens. The seeds of this plant strengthen the eyes, stomach and bowels, and relieve in the asthma. The roots taken up early in the spring have a pleasant, sweetish taste, with a slight aromatic warmth; and are ranked among the aperient roots. They are by some supposed to be equivalent in virtue to the celebrated ginseng of the Chinese.

In some little islands, or rather slightly covered rocks, on this coast, a very remarkable circumstance is to be observed, for one year nothing can be seen growing on them but the tree sea-mallow. *Malva arborea maritima*, of Ray; and the next year only sea-beets, termed, by Millar, *Beta caulibus decumbentibus foliis triangularibus petiolatis*, and in this manner they grow alternately, for which regular succession, it is very difficult to assign a cause.

Smooth leaved Rupture Wort, Herniaria glabra, J. B. grows plentifully about the Lizard point. This is by some thought to be good for the cure of ruptures, but instead of it Miller tells us, the herb-women bring the Parsley Break-stone to the market, which is sold in its stead.

Some species of the *Rock Rose, Cistus*, have been met with among the rocks at the Land's End.

Samphire, Crithmum sive foeniculum maritimum minus, C. B. is often found on the rocks and cliffs,

cliffs, it is by some boiled as a pot-herb, and by others pickled, being thought to help digestion, remove obstructions of the viscera, create an appetite, and act as a gentle diuretic.

Eryngo, or *Sea Holly*, *Eryngium maritimum*. This plant grows plentifully on the loose dry sands, above full sea mark, between Penzance and Market-jew, as well as in other places. The candied root is acknowledged to be a great restorative, and is of course in high esteem.

Along the north coast of this county, on the sand hills, which are the driest and most exposed, the *Prickly Large Sea-rush* grows in plenty; this is doubtless the *Juncus acutus, capitulis forghi*, C. B. These rushes are of great use, as their roots prevent the sands from shifting, or being washed away by the sea; and the leaves are annually cut, and used to make coarse mats, mattresses, market-baskets, and church hassocks. In Holland they plant this rush, with great care, on their banks, supplying the deficiencies, whenever any of them happen to be destroyed, and the leaves are used to make baskets. Miller tells us, that he has seen them above four feet in height, on the banks of the Mease.

Narrow leaved Wild Flax, *Linum Sylvestre angustifolium floribus dilute purpurascens vel carneis*. C. B. tho' a rare plant in England, is met with in the pastures in this county, by the sea side.

After having thus noticed the plants, which are the spontaneous produce of the soil in Cornwall, it may not be amiss to enquire a little into the methods of husbandry, practised by the inhabitants.

The Cornish tenants take their lands for ninety nine years, determinable with the lives of three persons,

persons, named in the lease, for which they pay a fine to the lord of the soil. This method is pursued, because their general turn is to mining; husbandry being, till lately, not well understood; and, because the profits of the mines, and fishing, comes in by fits; and after a lucky year the owner not knowing well how to manage his cash, he chuses to have a certain income for it; and lest it should be improperly employed, he deposits it with his landlord, and either takes a new lease or renews his old one. Besides, as the people on the sea coast, and the tinning parts, constantly encrease, it occasions the dividing and splitting large tenements, because every one is willing to have a small share of house and land for his own life, and that of his nearest dependants. For a lease of three lives, the taker usually pays fourteen years value of the real annual profit of the estate; so that if it be worth ten pounds a year, the tenant will not scruple to give one hundred and forty pounds fine, besides ten shillings a year reserved annually to the lord. However, in some parishes they pay twenty years value instead of fourteen.

The several sorts of corn here are wheat, barley, oats, and rye, with the naked oats, which will grow in the poorest croft land that has been tilled two or three seasons before with potatoes; and this is used by the poor instead of oatmeal. It is a small yellow grain, of the size of wheat; and is accounted better than any other nourishment for fattening of calves. Rye is sown very little of late years, since the barren lands have been so improved as to bear barley, which serves for bread as well as beer. In some parishes near the Lizard, the barley has been ripe, and fit for market, nine weeks after it was sown.

They sow several sorts of grass seed, and of late begin to cultivate turnips, with which they feed
sheep

sheep and other cattle; but the potatoe is the most useful root, and is now cultivated every where for the use of the poor. These thrive well in poor lands seasonably tilled, and are brought to the tables of the rich. They have two sorts of potatoes, one of whereof is the flat or kidney potatoes which if it is planted early in the winter, may be dug up at midsummer. The other is the round potatoe, which if set in the spring, will produce others fit for use at Christmas, and continue good till the following autumn. The inhabitants, of this county, grow no more corn than what will serve their own use, and in some years not enough.

About 200 years ago, the land in Cornwall, lay all in common, or was only divided by *stitch meale*; and the inhabitants, according to Carew, had but little bread corn. Their horses for labour were shod only before, and the people devoted themselves entirely to tin; while their neighbours of Devonshire, and Somersetshire, hired their pasture grounds, and stocked them with cattle; they also supplied their markets with corn and bread. However, the profits of the tin mines becoming precarious, they at length applied themselves to husbandry; insomuch that in the latter end of the reign of queen Elizabeth, they were able not only to support themselves, but to export a great deal of corn to Spain and other places. Since that time they have continued their husbandry, and there are great numbers of inclosures fit for tillage, especially on the banks of the largest rivers. In the eastern parts of the county, their manure is lime made of a coarse marble.

In Cornwall the chief manures are brought from the sea; for sea sand is used by every one that can come at it; besides, after storms, the sea
herbs

herbs such as sea wreck, fucus, and ore weed are scattered in great plenty on the shore, and they are some of the best manures that nature affords. However, it must be observed, that the sooner they are taken up, the better they are, and they must be immediately spread on old stiff earth, and then covered with sand; this done, they soon dissolve into a salt oily slime, which contributes greatly to enrich other manures; tho' some lay it naked, fresh gathered from the sea, on their barley lands in the beginning of April, and have a good crop of corn. This is, however, in some cases, attended with great inconvenience, for it renders the grass unwholesome for that year, and asparagus, potatoes and other roots disagreeable.

Other manures arising from putrification, burning straw, and the dung of animals, are as common in this county as elsewhere; but near the fishing towns the inhabitants have the advantage of purchasing, for a small matter, pilchards, not fit for the market, with salt that has been used for curing fish; this last is usually sold to the husbandmen, for five-pence a bushel. Little of these manures is sufficient, and will warm the coldest land, so as to produce wholesome grass as well as corn.

The husbandry of this county, will admit of many improvements, but two are more obvious than the rest, namely, ploughing and harrowing with large horses instead of oxen; and introducing the wheel plough in many plain parts of the county.

As to wheel carriages, their butts and wains have only two wheels, of small diameter though some wheel waggons for carrying hay and corn are more capacious, and much preferable to them. There are lighter carts which are much better than the butts; however, they are not so

much in use as might be wished. The fences of Cornwall might be rendered much better, if the tenants were encouraged to plant quickset hedges, intermixed with young trees of oak, ash, elm or sycamore. This would add much to the beauty of the fields, which now abound in stone and turf; not to mention that it would afford the inhabitants better shelter and more fuel.

A Cornish bushel varies in different parts of the county, for in the eastern it contains between 18 and 24 gallons; but in the west, it should always contain 24 gallons; that is, three Winchester bushels, as they are called. They sometimes add another gallon, for the sake of raising the price of what they sell, in concert with the bakers, who make their bread according to the price of corn, and by that means pinch the poor.

The flax and thread for pilchard nets, are chiefly brought from Bridport, in Dorsetshire; and even the nets themselves are often made there; but it would be much more for the advantage of the Cornish people, to raise the materials for netting upon the spot; and to employ the women and children in making nets, when the season for fishing is over.

In this county, the farmer's dames have a peculiar method of making butter; for the cream is not for this purpose skimmed off raw, as is usually done in the eastern counties; but after it has remained in the vessel twelve hours, they set it in an earthen pan, over a slow fire, till it is as hot as a person can well bear his finger in, by which means the cream will rise to the top in a wrinkly furrowed pellicle, about a line thick, where it grows hard and clouted; but unless a great deal of care be taken, the butter will have a disagreeable earthy taste: However, this operation is at best attended with no advantage, because this cream
does

does not yield more, nor even so much as in the common way. Yet it has this convenience, that the butter-milk continues sweet, and is therefore made use of by the common people; whereas the other sort, growing sowerish, they will hardly taste it.

The western parts of this county, on account of its abounding with tin and fish, is extremely populous, and may vie, in that respect, with any part of England, where there is no great town or city; but as for the eastern part, though it is not so populous, it is nearly as much so as most other counties.

The inhabitants are of a middle stature, healthy, strong and active; and their way of life enables them to bear watching, cold, and wet, much better than where they do not live so hardy; the miners in particular, generally live to a great age. The air of Cornwall is very salt, and yet it is not unhealthy to those that are born there; and it has been observed long ago, that it was common to see persons of 80, or 90 years of age in every part. One named Polzew, was 130 years old; and we are told, by Mr. Scawen, that in 1676, a woman, in the narrowest part of the county, lived to be 164 years old, who retained her memory to the last, together with her health. At the Lizard, a place greatly exposed, a clergyman lived to be 120; and the sexton of the same parish, was above 100.

The inhabitants are generally allowed to be civil to strangers; yet they are very litigious among themselves; but this is owing to the numerous and minute subdivisions of property; which, sometimes, are hard to be determined. They also spend much of their time and money in public houses, defrauding their masters of the labour they pay for; this also prompts them to
G 2 cheating.

cheating, and other illegal methods of getting money. This luxury not only subsists in the mining part of the county, but in the towns and villages; which is partly owing to the election of members of parliament, for there is always excessive drinking at those times.

About 50 years ago, the principles and powers of mechanism, were little known among the Cornish; for they generally drew the water out of the mines, by dint of human labour, which was extremely expensive and tedious; but within these forty years, their hydraulics are greatly improved; and their horse engines, water wheels, and fire engines, are still growing more numerous.

The Cornish tongue, is a dialect of that, which till the Saxons came in, was common to all Britain, and more anciently spoken in Ireland and Gaul; but the inhabitants of this island being driven into Wales and Cornwall, and from thence to Brittany, in France, the same language, for want of intercourse, became differently pronounced, spoken, and written; and in different degrees mixed with other languages, inasmuch, that now the inhabitants of Cornwall and Wales, do not understand each other; besides the Cornish have left off the unpleasing guttural sound; thus, for instance, the Welch say *lech*, and the Cornish *leb*; both which signifies a flat stone. Again, the Welch call a lake *lhwch*, and the Cornish *lub*.

The most material singularities of this tongue, are that the substantive is generally placed before the adjective; the preposition comes sometimes after the case governed; the nominative, and governed case, and pronouns, are often incorporated with a verb. Likewise letters are changed in the beginning, middle, or end of a word or syllable; some are omitted, and others inserted;

and

and one word is compounded of several others, for the sake of brevity, sound and expression.

This language was so generally spoken in Cornwall, down to the time of Henry VIII. that in the latter part of that king's reign, the Lord's prayer, Creed, and Ten Commandments were first taught in the Cornish tongue. After this the gentry of Cornwall mixing gradually with the English, the Cornish language lost ground, in proportion as it lay near Devonshire. In the parish of Feock, or Pheoke, in the hundred of Powder, the Cornish tongue was still spoken in 1640; insomuch, that the vicar was forced to administer the sacrament in Cornish, because people in years, did not understand the English language. About 60 years ago, it was generally spoken in the parishes of St. Paul, and St. Just; that is, by the fishermen and market women in the former, and the tanners in the latter. However, this language is entirely left off, for it is never spoken any where in conversation; but as the ancient towns, castles, rivers, mountains, manners, seats, and families, have their names from the Cornish tongue; and as most of the technical names of mining, husbandry, and fishing, are in Cornish; the knowledge of it will be in all ages useful and instructive.

Among the general customs of Cornwall, may be reckoned wrestling, and hurling; for the former is oftener practised in this county than in any other part of England; and the latter is almost peculiar to it. The last is a trial of skill, between two parties, consisting of a considerable number of men; and sometimes between two or more parishes, though more usually between those of the same parish. This exercise has its name from hurling a ball, made of a round piece of wood, about three inches in diameter, covered

with a plate of silver, which is sometimes gilt, and has commonly a motto alluding to the pastime, as, *Guare wheagh, Yw, Guare Tead*; which means, *fair play is good play*. The success depends upon catching this ball, when it is thrown up, and carrying it off expeditiously, in spite of all opposition. This sport requires a nimble hand, a quick eye, a swift foot; skill in wrestling, as well as strength and good lungs. But it is not so much in use as formerly, for instead of this, they have introduced immoderate drinking. The timers have holy days peculiar to themselves, particularly on the Thursday sevennight before Christmas day, in commemoration of black tin being first melted in these parts, and turned into white tin. They also keep St. Piran's day, on the 5th of March, when they cease from work, and are allowed money to make merry with, in honour of that Saint, who is said to have given them useful informations relating to working tin.

Among the ancient customs still retained by the Cornish, we may mention that of adorning their doors and porches, on the first of May, with green boughs, and of planting stumps of trees before their houses. They erect May-poles, and upon holy days and festivals, dress them with garlands, and flowers. It is also a custom to make bonfires, in every village, on the Eve of St. John the Baptist, and St. Peter's days; which seem to be the remains of one of the superstitious customs of the druids. They were likewise wont to act plays or interludes, in open places, taken from some part of the scriptures. The places where they were acted, were the *Rounds*, a kind of amphitheatre, with benches either of stone or turf. In the parish of Peran-san, often called Peran in the Sands, in Pider hundred, there is a large

large and very regular one. The area is perfectly level, and about 130 feet in diameter; the benches are of turf, and seven in number, rising eight feet from the area. The top of the rampart is seven feet wide, from which there is an outward slope, and then a ditch. Not far from the middle of the area is a circular pit, 13 feet in diameter, and three feet deep, with sides sloping half way down to a bench of turf. From this there is a shallow trench, running from the pit nearly east, which is four feet six inches wide by one foot deep; extending to the undermost bench of the amphitheatre, where it is terminated by a semi-oval cavity.

This is a curious and regular work, formed with all the exactness of a fortification; but the greatest difficulty is to account for the pit, and the trench leading to it; and, though some have attempted to explain their use, it is but guess work after all, and shall therefore be passed over in silence. These interludes were called *Guaremir*, or *Miracle Plays*, and sometimes they lasted longer than a single day. There are still some faint remains of the acting of plays at Christmas, when at the time of feasting, some of the most learned among the vulgar, enter in disguise, and before the gentry, who are properly seated, personate characters, and carry on miserable dialogues on Scripture subjects.

The chief trade of Cornwall consists in exporting tin, copper, and fish; and the principal imports are timber, iron, hemp, and other necessities, which mining and fishing require. The common people, on the sea coast, are addicted to smuggling; they carry off bullion to France, bringing back nothing but brandy, tea, and some other luxuries; insomuch that now the poorest family in every parish, has got tea, snuff, and

tobacco; and brandy also, when they have either money or credit to procure it.

The county of Cornwall, is in the diocese of Exeter, and province of Canterbury, and is divided into nine hundreds; in which are contained, according to Camden, and Speed, 161 parishes, according to others 180; and in Martin's Index Villaris, they are said to amount to 198. There are here twenty-three market towns, of which Bodmyn, Camelford, Fowey, St. Germans, Gramport, Helston, St. Ives, Kellington, Launceston, Liskard, East Looe, Penryn, Saltash, Tregony, and Truro, are boroughs, and send two members each to parliament; besides St. Austle, Boscastle, St. Columb, Falmouth, Market Jew, Padstow, Penzance, and Stratton, which send no members. There are also six other boroughs, which send each two members to parliament, but are not market towns, namely, Boffiney, West Looe, Lestwithiel, St. Maws, St. Michael, and Newport, so that including the two knight's for the shire, this county, as beforementioned, sends no less than forty-four members to parliament; which appears somewhat strange, not only on account of the smallness of the county; but, because the boroughs are inconsiderable in regard to their trade, inhabitants, and wealth. In the twenty third year of the reign of Edward I. there were only five boroughs, namely, Lancelton, Liskard, Truro, Bodmyn, and Helston, which sent two members each, and the county two; Lestwithiel has had the same privilege, from the fourth of Edward II. these are called the six ancient boroughs. In the latter end of the reign of Edward VI. seven other boroughs were added, namely, Saltash, Camelford, West Loo, Gramport, Boffiney, Mitchel or St. Michael, and Newport. In the first reign of queen Mary, Penryn

Penryn gained the like privilege, and in the fourth of the same reign St. Ives. In the first year of queen Elizabeth, Tregony was admitted; in the fifth St. Germans, and St. Maws; in the thirteenth, East Loo; and Fawey, or Fowey; and in the twenty-seventh, Kellington.

The reason why so many, of modern date, were added, will best appear from the consideration that the duchy of Cornwall, yields in tin, and lands, a larger hereditary revenue to the crown, than any other county. Eight of these boroughs, namely, S Itash, Camelford; West Loo, Gram-pont, Boffiney, Tregoney, St. Maws, and West Loo, had either an immediate or remote connection with the demesne lands of this duchy, formerly a link of much stricter union, and higher command, than at present; but it must be remembered, that it belongs immediately to the crown, only when the king has no son, who is prince of Wales. Four other boroughs belonged to religious houses; but fell to the crown at the dissolution of the monasteries, in the reign of Henry VIII. namely, Newport, which rose with Launceston priory, and with it fell to the crown; Penryn depended much on the rich college of Glassebury and its lands; its manors were also alienated by Edward VI. but restored by queen Mary, who gave the town the above privilege. St. Germans next to Bodmyn, was the chief priory in Cornwall, and the borough of Fowey fell to the crown with the Priory of Treward-rith, to which it belonged.

Mitchel belonged to the family of the Arundels of Lanherne and St. Ives; and Kellington to that of Powlett; which connections may discover the rise of their privilege. Henry VII. reduced the powers of the ancient lords, and advanced that of the commons; Henry VIII. enriched many of

the commons with church lands; and in the latter end of the reign of Edward VI. the duke of Northumberland wanting to have a majority in the house of commons, Cornwall seemed best adapted for his purpose, on account of the large property and influence of the dutchy; six towns, therefore, depending on the dutchy and church lands, and one borough belonging to a powerful family, were allowed to send fourteen members. Queen Mary, in her short reign, admitted two more; and queen Elizabeth six. It was no objection that these boroughs had little trade, and few inhabitants; for that very reason they were likely to be more tractable and dependent, than large opulent towns, inhabited by persons of trade, rank, and discernment. It must however be acknowledged, that these places were old boroughs according to the legal acceptation of the word; that is, they had immunities granted them by their princes or lords, and exemptions from services in any other courts; with the privileges of exercising trades, and of electing officers within their own district; they had also the property of lands, mills and fairs, upon paying annually a fee-farm rent: add to this, that most of them were part of the ancient demesnes of the crown; and had been either in the crown, or in the blood royal from the Norman conquest.

On entering this county from the most northern parts of Devonshire, a small part of which lies between Cornwall and St. George's Channel, you come to KILLHAMPTON, a little village about four miles to the north of Stratton. It is of no great note, yet has two annual fairs; namely, on Holy Thursday, and three weeks after, for cattle, &c.

Denis Granville, dean of Durham, in the last century, was a younger son of the loyal and valiant

liant Sir Bevil Granville, of this place, and born in the year 1639. He had his education in Exeter college, Oxford; where he took his degrees in arts and divinity. He was afterwards archdeacon of Durham, first prebendary in the cathedral church of that diocese, rector of Easington and Elwick, chaplain in ordinary to his majesty; and last of all was promoted to the deanery of Durham. He would probably have risen to higher preferments, had not his too strong attachment to the doctrine of passive-obedience, and non-resistance induced him, at the revolution, to relinquish his livings, and go into voluntary exile. He died at his lodgings in Paris, April the 8th, 1703, and was buried in the church-yard of the Holy Innocents in that city. He published a few sermons and other tracts.

STRATTON, is a small market town, about 20 miles to the west of Biddeford, in Devonshire; about 17, nearly, north of Launceston, and 22½ W. by S. of London. It is chiefly noted for the garden grounds which surround it, and for being the place where Sir Ralph Hopton defeated the earl of Stamford. This affair is thus related, by historians: The parliament not thinking proper to consent to the neutrality, entered into by the counties of Devon, and Cornwall, about the beginning of May, 1643, ordered the earl of Stamford, their general in the west, to march into Cornwall, which he accordingly did with an army of seven thousand men, and posted himself upon the top of a hill near the town; from whence he sent a party of twelve hundred horse, under the command of Sir John Chudleigh to Bodmyn. Sir Ralph Hopton, who commanded for the king, having but three thousand men, plainly saw he should be driven out of the county, if he did not strike some sudden blow: he resolved
therefore,

therefore, without delay, to attack the earl in his advantageous post. Accordingly on the 16th of May, he approached the earls encampment, and ordered the attack to be made at four different places, having first divided his little army into four divisions, the first being led on by lord Mohun and himself; the second, by Sir John Berkeley, and Sir Bevil Granville; the third, by Sir Nicholas Slanning, and colonel Trevannion; and the fourth, by colonel Basslet and colonel William Godolphin. In this order a most desperate attack was made, the assailants being determined either to conquer or die; at length, after several hours conflict, they gained the summit of the hill, which the parliament army was obliged to quit, with the loss of 300 men killed, and 1700 taken prisoners, among the last was major general Chudleigh, son to Sir George above-mentioned. This last, upon the news of the defeat, got into Plymouth, with as many of the troops under his command as he could keep together. In memory of this battle, Sir Ralph Hopton was afterwards created lord Hopton of Stratton. The field, where the battle was fought, is said to have produced the next year, a most amazing large crop of fine barley, there being ten or twelve ears on a stalk. The town of Stratton has a market held on Tuesdays, and three annual fairs, on May 19, Nov. 8, and Dec. 11. chiefly for cattle.

This town, inconsiderable as it is at present, is of great antiquity, and was built by the Romans, of which there is sufficient testimony; not only by the name of many other towns, which are undoubtedly Roman; for the Roman roads were, by the Saxons, called streets, and some of the towns, which stood on them, they named Street-towns, or Strettons. Besides, the great
southern

southern road leading into Cornwall, it is highly probable the Romans had another more to the north; and this second road might, perhaps, run along the coast of the north sea, with forts, and towns, at proper distances, as well as cross roads, reaching from one principal road to another. Indeed there are still the remains of a Roman road amongst the hills, in the neighbourhood of Stratton. Mr. Borlase made this discovery from the church tower, from the battlements of which he saw a strait road passing east and west, pointing directly for the town, which has nearly the same direction. The next morning he easily found the ridge-way, about ten feet wide, bearing up the hill, but overgrown with briers; and this accurate observer traced it to West Leigh, on the top of the hill, near two miles east of Stratton, in the way to Torrington. There is a way, nearly parallel to this, which runs betwixt the lane leading to Lancell's church, and the before-mentioned way, and this midway is called Small-ride-lane; its name implying, that it was a second, or collateral way, having reference to some broad ridge way, or principal road in its neighbourhood.

To the west of Stratton, at the towns end, we find a raised way, called the Causeway, paved with stones, which passes slanting up the hill, and then runs about a mile and a half, as strait as the hilly surface will permit, passing away at the head of Bude-haven towards Camelford. About half a mile from the town, and a furlong to the right of the causeway, is a square intrenchment, of about an acre of ground; where the house of the Blankminsters formerly stood. It was moated round, but whether it was a small fort belonging to the way, or layed out by the owners is uncertain. However, in this last place,
several

several brass medals, and silver coins, have been lately found. From these observations it appears, that the Romans had a road in the north of Cornwall; but whether it comes from Exeter, or runs into the north of Devonshire from Somersetshire, is uncertain; though Mr. Borlase thinks the latter most probable.

That the Roman ways in this county, have not been taken notice of by any author before Borlase, is not wonderful, since the Roman roads are so broken, that in many places it is uncertain where they begin, and where they end. Add to this, that the names of the towns, on these roads, are so often mis-spelt, that learned men are not agreed with respect to their situations. But what contributes most to these obscurities, is the different structure of the ways themselves, and the discontinuance of them, where they were judged unnecessary. They were often raised into a ridge, consisting of regular strata of stone, clay, and gravel, with ditches on each side, running in a strait line; and those most highly finished were paved on the top; the stone being, sometimes, laid close in an arch, corresponding to the general turn of the ridge. But they were not all so well constructed; for Ickneld is not a raised way, nor yet the Foss. In Staffordshire the ways are only made of gravel, dug from the sides of the Roman ways; and the same is observed by Dr. Stukely, with regard to Ithling dyke, near Woodyates, where the holes from whence the materials were taken to raise the road are still visible.

It must also be added, that near Stratton are two square forts, one at Binnomay, where old Roman brass coins were lately found. The other is at Walsborow, where on the highest part of the tenement is a large barrow. Now as this place lies but a little way from the road, called the Causeway,

way, leading from Stratton to Camelford, and is raised above the common level like a wall, it is suspected that it was either called the Barrow, on, or near the wall; or from the walled fort, now visible above the house; Gual signifying a fort; and for one of these reasons it was called by the Saxons Walsborow; both these square forts lying so near Stratton, and also near a way thought to be Roman, it is not at all improbable but they were erected by the Romans.

Leaving now the road, which extends from Stratton, to the S. E. we shall take that which passes near that town, and runs to the southward, by which means we shall next take a view of all the places in this county, in the neighbourhood of Devonshire.

About the distance of nine miles, to the south of Stratton, is WEEK ST. MARY, a village, where a charity and free school were founded, and endowed by Thomafine Bonavanture, who, from a poor girl, after having two husbands wealthy citizens, became the wife of Sir John Percival, lord mayor of London, whom she also outlived, and employed her widowhood in works of piety and charity; as repairing highways, building bridges, portioning poor maidens, relieving prisoners, and many other things. She built here handsome lodgings for the school masters, and officers, and allowed twenty pounds yearly for incidents. This school was long continued with great reputation, many people of note, in the county, having been educated at it. But the charity being included in the general dissolution of monasteries, the school was involved in their ruin. This village has two fairs, namely, on the 9th of September, and Wednesday three weeks before Christmas day, chiefly for cattle.

About

About six miles southward of Stratton, is LAUNCESTON, which is seated 28 miles north of Plymouth, and 208 west by south of London. According to Leland, it was anciently named Lefsephon, which is an abbreviation of *Lanstephadon*, that is, the church of Stephen. He farther observes, that it was surrounded with a wall, and was about a mile in compass, but even then ruinous. The castle is seated upon a hill, on the north side of the town. It formerly included a chapel, a hall for the assizes and sessions, and the county goal; but it is now so much decayed, that nothing but the goal remains. The assizes were anciently held only at this town, but by a late act of parliament, the summer assizes are now always held at Bodmin.

The hill on which the castle stands is surrounded with a triple wall, and this fortress was formerly so strong, that it was called Castle-Terrible. It was repaired, and had many additions made to it by William de Morton, earl of Cornwall, soon after the conquest, and was one of the principal strong-holds of the county: he and his successors residing in it, to the great advantage of the town. We have given with this work a fine view of the castle.

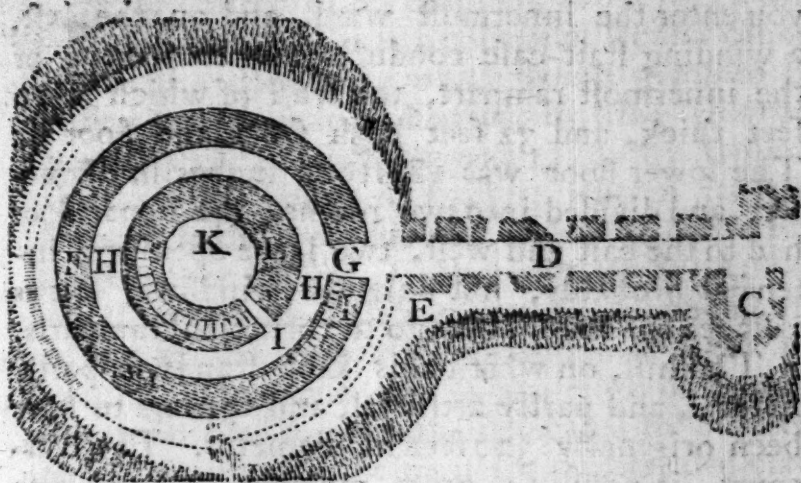
Leland farther tells us, that in his time there were three gates and a postern, besides a gate to go out of the castle into the old park; and then some gentlemen held their lands by *Castle-guard*, that is by reparation and defence of the castle.

This being once the principal place of strength in the county, we shall give a particular description of the keep, which is of a very singular construction, and that we may be better understood, have annexed a plan of it. The principal entrance to the
bass-court



The West View of Launceston Castle, in the County of Cornwall.





bass-court of the castle, is on the north east,
 through a gate-way 120 feet long; whence
 turning to the right, a terrace parrallel to the
 rampart leads you to a round tower at the
 first angle, called now the Witches; hence, turn-
 ing short to the left, you go along the side of the
 rampart, about 12 feet thick, till you come to
 the semicircular tower C. (*see the plan*) standing
 at the foot of the hill, whereon is built the keep.
 From this place the ground rises very quick, and
 through a passage, 7 feet wide, you ascend the co-
 vered way D. The whole keep, which consists
 of three walls, was 93 feet in diameter, and its
 upper parapet was, according to an observation
 made by the very ingenious and learned Mr.
 Borlase, 104 feet above the level of the bass-
 court. The wall of the first ward E. was not
 quite three feet thick, being probably only de-
 signed by way of parapet, for the soldiers to de-
 fend the brow of the hill. Six feet within E. is
 the second wall F. 12 feet thick, with a stair-
 case on the left at G. three feet wide, leading
 to the top of the rampart. Over the entrance of
 the stair-caise, is a round arch of stone. At H.
 you

you enter the innermost ward, and on the left, a winding stair-case conducts you to the top of the innermost rampart, the wall of which is 10 feet thick, and 32 feet high from the floor K. The lower floor was 18 feet 6 inches in diameter, and divided into two rooms; the upper floor had to the east and west, two large openings, intended probably, not only for windows, but as passages for the soldiers to the principal ramparts.

The hill, on which this keep stands, is partly natural, and partly artificial, and appears to have been originally 320 feet in diameter. The bass-court, is now in a great measure covered with the houses of the town. Our accurate guide, Mr. Borlase, is of opinion that the styles of the buildings yet remaining, being different, shew the castle to have been built at different times, and imagines the round tower, called the witches tower, on the angle of the rampart, to be undoubtedly Roman, and the squareness of the bass-court, he thinks, partakes much of the Roman manner. Indeed, as this diligent writer has undeniably proved, that the Romans were in Cornwall, we are inclined to subscribe to his opinion; Launceston being, for many reasons, as likely a situation for one of their stations as any in the county. Upon the whole, it seems more than probable, that William earl of Morton and Cornwall, who is generally esteemed the founder of this castle, only built a part of it on the foundations, which were ready laid to his hands; and it is not at all unlikely, that a part of it might be as old as the times of the Romans.

The present parish church was made of part of the chauntry chapel; it was enlarged so as to hold the inhabitants, and has a handsome high tower steeple.

In the church of St. Stephen, about half a mile from Launceston, was a college of secular canons before the conquest, which being given to the bishop and church of Exeter, by king Henry I. was suppressed before the year 1126, by William Warlewaste, bishop of Exeter, who in its stead founded in the west suburb, under the castle hill, a priory for canons of the order of St. Austin, which was also dedicated to St. Stephen, and valued at the general suppression, at 354l. per annum. Here was also in the reign of Edward II. an hospital for lepers, dedicated to St. Leonard: likewise an hospital for lazars, dedicated to St. Thomas; and also a friary, of which we can find no particulars upon record.

The free-school, in this town, was founded and endowed by queen Elizabeth; the two charity schools are supported by voluntary contributions; and early habits of industry inculcated into the children, both boys and girls. The members for the county of Cornwall, are still elected here; and by an act passed in the thirty second of Henry VIII. for the repair of decayed Cornish boroughs, the privilege of a sanctuary was granted to this town; but it does not appear that it was ever claimed.

Launceston was incorporated by queen Mary, anno 1555, and is governed by a mayor, recorder, and eight aldermen, who with the burgesses, to the number of an hundred and thirty, choose the representatives in parliament for the town; the market is on Saturdays: It has four fairs, on Whit-Monday, July 5, November 17, and December 6, for horses, oxen, sheep, cloth and a few hops.

Launceston is now a populous town; many families of rank and fortune reside in its neighbourhood; and, in general, the country round about

about it is well peopled and cultivated; yet are they obliged to send for their coals, firr-timber for building, and all foreign productions, and goods from London, Exeter, and Plymouth; and for all their sea sand for manure, at least ten miles; receiving it from Morlham or Boscastle, which last is still farther by land carriage, and the road thither extreamly bad. Now as the river Tamar, passes within a mile and a half of the town, where it is a noble stream, with a wide channe and receives the Artery river running directly from the walls of Launceston, it is not at all improbable, but this river might be rendered navigable so far.

In the year 1675, the charge of land carriage alone, was estimated at 32000 pounds a year, only for sea sand and ore weed, for manuring the ground, and this is since increased. Therefore, if such improvements were made, many considerable advantages would arise, as bringing up timber, and other materials for building and the tin works; carrying, re-carrying, and exporting metals; transporting all the commodities from London and Bristol, as well as the products of foreign countries.

In Launceston, the lord Hopton, general on the side of the royalists, in the civil wars, was obliged by general Fairfax to disband his forces, which gave the parliament the ascendant in this part of the island.

NEWPORT, is a sort of a suburb to Launceston, in the parish of St. Stephen. It was formerly included with Launceston, under the name of Dunheven, or Dunhevid; but upon the removal of the priory church, at the dissolution, another church was erected and dedicated to St. Thomas, round which houses being built to the number of about eighty, the whole was included in the borough

rough of Newport. This place was never incorporated, but at the dissolution, the manor of this hamlet having belonged to the priors of St. Stephen, whereas Launceston belonged to the earls and dukes of Cornwall, it claimed distinct privileges as being separated in jurisdiction, and the manor devolving to the crown, it challenged a right of sending members to parliament, in the sixth of Edward VI. and their burgesses being admitted, they have exercised the same right ever since. Two persons called Vianders, are annually chosen at the lords court, these are the officers who regulate the elections, and make the return of the representatives, who are chosen by all the inhabitants of the place, paying scot and lot, or having burgage tenure in this district, amounting in all to about 60 in number.

We cannot in a more proper place take notice of Hengesdon, Hengston, or Henshon-hill, as it is commonly called; situated at no great distance from hence, lower down, near the banks of the Tamar. This place was anciently so rich in veins of tin, that the country people have still a proverb in rhyme.

Henshon-down well y wrought.

Is worth London dear y bought.

But the mines are now worn out; there are, however, plenty of Cornish diamonds found here, yet not of consequence enough to verify the proverb. The inhabitants in the neighbourhood say, that a cloud sitting on this hill forebodes rain. At this place a great battle was fought betwixt the Danes, who had made a descent in Cornwall, and the Saxons, under king Egbert, in which the first were entirely defeated. This happened about the year 835.

On a rocky tor, in the parish of Northill, about 5 miles S. W. of Launceston, near the road

road which leads to Loftwithiel, are many basons, which the country people call Arthur's troughs, in which they have a tradition that prince used to feed his dogs. Near these basons is Arthur's hall; for whatever is great, and the use thereof unknown, they ascribe to king Arthur.

We have annexed a cut of three of these basons, that marked A being called Arthur's bed, the other his troughs. The first is about 9 feet long, and near five wide; the other two, are about two feet in diameter.



There are two sorts of these basons, some having lips or channels to them, and others none, by which it should seem that they were intended for different uses; yet were they, probably, both the works of the same people, being often found intermixed. These basons are generally found on the highest parts of the rocks, and are very numerous. They are never on the sides of rocks, unless by accident or violence removed from their original situation; but have always their openings, horizontally facing the heavens. They are often found on the tops of logans or rocking stones,

stones, and were there probably subservient to superstition, and the illusions of the druids.

The shape of these basons is not uniform, some being quite irregular, others oval, and many circular, their openings generally spread and widen; and some have little falls into a larger bason, which detains what it receives, having no outlet. Other large ones, intermixed with smaller, have passages from one to another, one only having an outlet.

The floor, or bottom of these basons, we generally find exactly level, yet sometimes they are shelving, to give the water a fall from one bason to another; this, however, is meant of those which are most finished, some having much less workmanship bestowed on them. The size of these basons is various, from six feet to a few inches in diameter.

Mr. Borlase supposes, that these rock basons were formed by the druids, and that they were intended to collect and preserve the pure water, and snow, which fell from the clouds. Such basons as had lips, were to convey the moisture they received into some larger reservoir, and those which had no lips were to retain it.

KELLINGTON, is situated about ten miles to the south of Launceston, and 215 west by south of London: It sends two representatives to parliament, though it is not incorporated; however, it is a considerable place, if compared with most of the Cornish boroughs; for it contains above 150 houses, and consists chiefly of one broad street. The town is governed by a portreeve, chosen at the court-leet of the lord of the manor, and the inhabitants, who have lived in the place a year, are admitted Burgesses, which entitles them to vote at the election of the members of parliament.

The

The market-house is a tolerable building, and the church, which is only a chapel of ease to the parish of Southill, and is dedicated to St. Mary, is a neat structure, having been rebuilt by Nicholas de Ashton, serjeant at law; who lies buried under a marble monument in the chancel. This was the last town in Cornwall, which was called upon to send representatives to parliament, no members being returned, till the 27th of Elizabeth, 1585, and the returning officer is the Portreeve. The chief trade of this place is the woollen manufactory; in which, however, no great matters are done.

Kellington has a right to a market on Wednesdays; and has three fairs, on May 4, Sept. 19, and on November 12, for horses, oxen, sheep, cloth, and a few hops.

From this town, the road extends ten miles southward to SALTASH; which is seated four miles to the north west of Plymouth, and 226 west by south of London. It was formerly called Esse, and afterwards Salt-esse; from its being in the neighbourhood of the sea, whence its present name. From this town it is not above three miles by water to Hamoose, or Plymouth dock; to which there is a ferry over the Tamar, called Crimble-passage. It is situated on the side of a steep hill, so that the three streets, of which it principally consists, are washed clean by every shower of rain. The town of Saltash has sent representatives to parliament, ever since the time of Edward the sixth; though it was made a borough by its lord Reginald de Valletort, in the reign of Henry IV. king Charles II. first incorporated it, anno 1682; and it is governed by a mayor, six aldermen, and about 20 burgessees who may chuse a recorder, and elect the members to serve in parliament. The manor of the
borough

borough is vested in the corporation, who upon payment of an annual rent of 18l. enjoys the tolls of the market and fairs. The chapel dedicated to St. Nicholas, is annexed to the church of St. Stephen, in which parish the town is situated. The haven is capable of receiving ships of any burthen, and the corporation has great privileges over it, namely, a court of admiralty, a yearly rent of boats, and barges, anchorage of foreign shipping, and dragging for oysters. The town-house, and market-house, are good buildings, and there is a free-school endowed by the crown. The inhabitants of Saltash carry on a considerable commerce in malt and beer; and some of the merchants have ships which use the Newfoundland trade. The market is very considerable for the sale of provisions, it is held on Saturdays, and much frequented by the inhabitants of Plymouth dock, who rather chuse to come hither by water, to buy all their necessary provisions, than to go by land to Plymouth; because Saltash market is most reasonable in point of price, and the town-boat carries whatever they buy home for them without any additional expence. This town belongs to the honour of Trematon castle, situated at a small distance in the same parish.

This castle was one of the four houses, and the head of a barony of the ancient dukes of Cornwall, and the lordship still retains great jurisdictions and privileges. Though Trematon castle, was built before the conquest, yet is it the most entire ancient castle with a keep, to be met with in this county. The keep is of an oval form, and situated within the walls of the bass-court. The outer wall of the keep is still standing, ten feet thick, two feet of which is taken up with the garreted parapet, the other eight making the

breadth of the rampart. The entrance is towards the west, the arch over the gate-way being round, not pointed or gothic, therefore of great antiquity. The top of the parapet, is about 30 feet high from the area within; which is now converted into a garden of pot-herbs; there is no window in all this building, whence we may probably conclude, that there was in the middle a well, to give light and air.

The wall of this court, which is still standing, has a ditch without, but has no tower, if we except the gate-way, which seems more modern; in the wall are loop holes for the annoyance of an enemy. The reader will, however, conceive a much truer idea of this old and magnificent structure, from the engraved representation of it annexed, than from any description we can give.

The lord Warden of the Stannaries, is by patent, steward of the castle and lordship, and the ancestors of the present Sir ——— Carew, baronet, for several successions were keepers of it by lease.

About 200 years since, there was dug up in the chancel of the parish church of St. Stephen, a leaden coffin, which being opened, exhibited to view the proportion of a very large man; there was an inscription on the lead, signifying that it contained the remains of a duke, whose heir was married to a prince; but who this should be, is not easy to guess. Mr. Carew supposed it to be Orgerius, because his daughter was married to Edgar; but Mr. Borlase, rather imagines it to have been the sepulchre of Cadoc the son of Condorus; because Orgerius, who was duke of Cornwall, in 959, and probably lived here, was buried in the monastery of Tavistock; as we are told by William of Malmesbury. This Cadoc,
is



The North West View of Trematon Castle, in the County of Cornwall.



is thought, by some, to have been restored to the earldom of Cornwall, from which his father had been displaced at the Norman conquest; though the dignity had descended to him from a long train of ancestors.

There are two annual fairs at Saltash, which are held the second of February, and the fifth of August.

At the commencement of the civil war, in the year 1642, after king Charles had failed in his attempt upon Hull, he made the marquis of Hertford commander in chief, in all the western parts; and the marquis constituted Sir Ralph Hopton his general of horse. When the marquis was obliged, some time afterwards, by the earl of Bedford to retire from Bath, where he had fixed his head quarters, he sent Sir Ralph Hopton, with about 150 horse into Cornwall. This happened before the battle of Edgehill. Hopton, with the assistance of some Cornish gentlemen, drew out 3000 of the trained bands, and marched towards Launceston, drove the committee of militia from thence, and afterwards from Saltash; but as these trained bands would not march out of their county, he dismissed them; but found means, with the assistance of the gentlemen of the county, to get together a body of 1500 regular troops, by which means, he not only secured Cornwall, but made inroads into Devonshire. The parliament having intelligence of his progress, collected a body of troops in Dorset and Somersetshires, which joined those of Devon; the command was given to Henry Gray, earl of Stamford, who sent Ruthven, a Scotchman, governor of Plymouth, into Cornwall. He was soon met on Bradoc-down, near Leskard, by Hopton, who entirely defeated him, killed many of his men, and took above 1200 prisoners.

Ruthven retired to Saltash, and the earl of Stamford to Tavistock, but they were both soon obliged to quit their stations; and Hopton fixed his quarters in Devonshire. However, soon after, both parties agreed to observe an exact neutrality, in the counties of Devon and Cornwall.

About four miles north west of Saltash, is LANDRAKE, a small village, only noted for two fairs, held annually on June 29, and August 25, for cattle, &c.

MILBROOK, or MELOCK as it is now more generally called, is a pretty fishing town, seated on the west side of Plymouth haven, six miles south of Saltash, about the same distance south east of St. Germans, and but about two miles to the north west of the promontory, called the Ram-head, well known to navigators. The town is tolerably well built; has furnished our fleets with many able seamen, and enjoys the advantage of a small market on Saturdays. A remarkable instance of imperfection is recorded to have happened here, a woman being delivered of two female children, at ten weeks distance, and both lived.

MOUNT EDGECOMB, near Plymouth, is now in the possession of lord Edgecomb, to whom it gives the title of Baron; and is pleasantly seated in the middle of a park, from whence there is a fine prospect of the winding haven below it. This house was made a garrison for king Charles I. against the Parliament; but at the restoration, all the damage done to it was repaired, and it again became a very beautiful seat.

It may be proper to remark with the learned annotator on Camden, that this place, together with great part of the parish of Maker, though on the west side of the Tamer, do not properly belong to Cornwall, but Devonshire, yet in ecclesiastical

clesiastical jurisdiction they are within the archdeaconry of Cornwall. On the other hand, the trade on the east side of the Tamer, over against it, is a part of Cornwall; and it is the same about North-Tamerton.

Near Mount Edgecomb is the parish of RAME, which lies on the neck of land called Ramhead. It was formerly a gentleman's seat; and there is still a little vaulted chapel, of great use to sailors as a sea mark. Near it a second rate man of war, called the *Coronation*, was sunk with 500 men on board. The cellars here fetch great rents, at the time of Pilchard fishing, for the curing of those fish.

About two miles N. W. of Millbrook, is ST. ANTHONY's, a small village, remarkable for its neatness, and a fish-pond, which lets in the sea, whence it is furnished with fish. The Carews, lords of this place, are a family of great note, from which descended Richard Carew Esq; who wrote a survey of this county.

At the distance of eight miles to the southward, stands St. GERMAINS, which takes its name from St. Germanus bishop of Auxerre, in France; by some supposed to have been born in this town. He being a great orator, was sent into England by the French bishops, to oppose the doctrines taught by the followers of Pelagius; and having preached in several parts of the kingdom, he, at last, took up his residence here, for some time. King Athelstan, built a fair church to his memory in the town; and afterwards, as we have already noted, removed the seat of the bishops of Cornwall from Bodmin hither; where it continued during a succession of ten bishops, namely, 113 years; and was then removed first to Kirton, in 1049, and soon afterwards to Exeter, in 1050, where it still remains; and where the secular ca-

nons established at the foundation of the priory, by Athelstan, were changed into black canons.

This priory, from the year 937, to 1049, was the seat of a bishop; and at the dissolution of monastries, was rated at 243l. 8s. od. In queen Elizabeth's reign, the family of Elliot purchased the priory house, naming it port Elliot, in which ancient family it has flourished ever since.

The priory is still a handsome house, being a large building, fronting the river. Near it stands the old cathedral, now the parish church, consisting of a north isle, and two spacious naves; at the west end were formerly two lofty towers, but they are now nearly demolished.

The parish of St. Germain's, is the largest in the county, it being above 20 miles in compass. The town, while it was the residence of the bishops, was very considerable, but is now a mean place, consisting only of about 50 or 60 fishermen's huts, placed near the church. It has, however, a free school, endowed by the Elliot family. The members are chosen by all the householders, who have lived a year within the borough, which contains only the huts above-mentioned, the rest of the parish being excluded. There is a weekly market held here on Fridays, which is but little frequented; and they have two fairs, namely, on May 28, and on August 1, for cattle. The town is situated on a rising ground, in the form of an amphitheatre, and the inhabitants are principally subsisted by fishing in Tydeford river, which runs by it. At a farm house, at Cuttenbeck, distant about a mile and a half from the town, are still visible the ruins of the old episcopal palace; and in the church, the episcopal chair, and the stalls for the prebends yet remain. The chief magistrate is the mayor or portreeve, who is annually chosen at the court-lect

leet of the lord of the manor, the mayor is also bailiff of the borough, and may make any house in it the prison of the person he arrests.

This parish contains more gentlemens seats and lordships than any other in England.

From this town a road extends to Liskard, in the way to which, is MENCHINOT, MENHENIOT, or MENKEMOCK, as it is variously called, a small village, about 7 miles distant from St Germans, only noted for having two annual fairs, on June 11, and July 28.

LISKARD, or LESKARD, is seated among rocky hills, four miles to the northward of Menchinot, and 221 west by south of London. It is a borough town, that sends two members to parliament. The parish church stands on a hill, and is a large handsome structure with a broad tower. The castle also stood on a hill north of the church, and was so ruinous, in Leland's time, that nothing but small fragments of the walls were remaining. This town was incorporated by queen Elizabeth, and the government consists of nine capital burghesses, one of whom is annually chosen mayor. There is also a recorder with interior officers; and the members of parliament are chosen by sworn freemen, about 100 in number. It is one of the largest towns in Cornwall; the buildings are handsome, and the market is one of the most considerable in the county. The town-hall being built upon stone pillars is worth notice, on the top of it is a curious clock with four dials, which cost about 200 pounds, and was erected in 1707, by Mr. Dolben one of their members of parliament. There is also an admirable conduit, which plentifully supplies the streets about the market place with water.

The inhabitants carry on a considerable trade in tanned leather, boots and shoes ; and also spin large quantities of yarn for the Devonshire clothiers. This town was at the beginning of the last century, in a ruinous condition, but is, as may be observed above, greatly recovered. There is a noble free-school here, but with only a temporary endowment.

The market is held on Saturdays, and there are six fairs, namely, on Shrove Monday, Monday sevensnight before Easter, Holy Thursday, August 15, September 21, and December 10, for horses, oxen, sheep, and a few hops.

In the parish of ST. CLEERE, which stands three miles north of Liskard, is a monument called the Hurlers. It consists of three circles, the centers of which are in a line, but many of the stones are now carried off. The common people suppose, that the stones of which this monument consists, were formerly men, and that they were thus transformed as a punishment for hurling on a Sunday.



The rock called *Wrincheese*, in this parish, about three miles north of Liskard, attracts the admiration of all travellers.

This is a pile of rocks placed one over another, and called *Wring-cheese*, from some of them resembling large cheeses. As

As no description could convey to the reader a perfect idea of this wonderful rock, we have given a cut of it. On the top stone B were two basons, but part of them is broke at A. The upper stone B, was a logan or rocking stone, and might, when it was entire, be easily moved with a pole; but the equipoise is now lost by part of the stone being broke off. The whole heap is thirty-two feet high, and it is indeed wonderful, considering the great weight of the upper part A to B, &c. and the slenderness of the under part at D to C, that such an ill-grounded pile should in such an exposed situation, resist the storms of so many ages. Some have imagined this to be an artificial building of flat stones, laid one over the other, but there are several heaps of flat stones on the same hill; and also on another about a mile distant, call Kell-marr, of the like form though not so high. It is much more probably a natural cragg, the stones that surround it being removed by the druids, and was past all doubt a rock deity.

At about 200 paces eastward of Redgate, in this parish, are two monumental stones, which seem to be part of two different crosses; the first is like a spill of a cross, seven feet six inches high above the ground, and two feet six inches broad in the under part. The side of the shaft is adorned with diaper work, consisting of asterisks of two inches diameter, disposed in the Quincunx manner; at the top of the stone is part of a mortice, which seems to have had relation to some other stone that made it a part of the cross. The second stone called *the other half stone*, had a square socket at the top, very regularly sunk, and the masonry in general greatly excels that of the other. It is probable it was either the pedestal of a cross, or placed at one end

of a grave. The inscription is *Doniert rogavit pro anima*. By Doniert it probably meant Dungerth king of Cornwall, who was drowned about the year 872. He was not only a prince, but from the inscription appears to have been a man of great piety. There are several opinions about the occasion of its erection; but Mr. Borlace imagines, he desired in his life time a cross might be erected over his grave, in order to put people in mind of praying for his soul.

From St. Cleere a road extends westward, and at about four miles distance is St. NEOTS, which is about 14 miles west of Kellington, 8 miles west of Bodmin, and 10 miles north of Looe. St. Neot's, is so called from a man of great sanctity, who was buried here, in a convent dedicated to him, and the monks were called Clerks of St. Neot's. They had pretty large revenues; but have been so long dissolved that there are not the least remains to shew that they were ever here. The church of this village is a very handsome structure; and there are many Jewish traditions painted on the glass windows, which are supposed to have been taken from the Jews, who came hither to trade in tin.

St. Neot, is thought to have been the brother, or near relation of Alfred the Great, and an abbot in Cornwall. He died in the year 890. The founder of the monastery is unknown, but some think it was Alfred. The body of the saint was afterwards removed into Huntingdonshire, where he gave name to another town, called St. Neot's; but in the year 1213, his body was again taken up and removed, by Henry, abbot of Croyland, to Croyland minster; William earl of Moreton, took away all the lands from this church of
St.

St. Neot, except about one acre, and annexed it to the abbey of Montacute in Somersetshire.

About eight miles to the west of Liskard, on the left hand of the road to Lostwithiel, is BOCOROCKE, a village, no otherways remarkable than as being a seat, and estate of — Pitt, Esq; nephew to the right honourable William Pitt, earl of Chatham. It formerly belonged to the lords of Mohun, whose principal seat was at Hall, opposite to Fowey, on the other side of the haven, and afterwards to the Keckwiches.

We shall now turn back, by the same road, and visit ST. LOOE, which is divided into east and west. EAST LOOE, which is seated 8 miles to the west of St. Germans, is an ancient borough, and has a small harbour, being situated on the banks of the river Looe near the sea. This river is navigable for vessels of 100 tons burthen, and over it is a stone bridge of fifteen arches; it is 141 yards long, six feet three inches wide between the walls, and leads into the town of West Looe. This town was first incorporated by queen Elizabeth, in the year 1587. The corporation consists of nine burgesses, one of whom is annually chosen mayor, and they have jointly the power of electing a recorder. East Looe first sent representatives to parliament, in the 13th of queen Elizabeth, though the inhabitants once before, in conjunction with Fowey, made the return of a merchant to a council held at Westminster. The members are chosen by the mayor, burgesses and freemen, who amount to about 50 in number. The townsmen chiefly subsist by their fishery, which is, however, greatly decayed. The church, is a chapel of ease to St. Martin's, the minister of which is obliged to preach at East Looe, once in three weeks; but the inhabitants bury their dead at the mother church. They have a weekly market

market held on Saturdays, the toll of which belongs to the corporation ; who also hold the manor of the town from the duchy of Lancaster, at a fee-farm rent of 20s. per annum. And they have two annual fairs, which are held on the 13th of February, and on the 10th of October.

WEST LOOE, or WEST LOW, is 16 miles and a half west of Plymouth, nine east of Fowey; and 230 west by south of London. It is only separated from East Looe, already described. by a stone bridge of 15 arches over the river Looe, or Low, which is navigable for vessels of a 100 tons burthen. This town is not of any great antiquity; it first sent representatives to parliament in the sixth year of Edward VI; was incorporated by queen Elizabeth, and is governed by a mayor and twelve capital burgeses; by whom with the freemen, who amount to about 60, the members are elected. There was formerly a chapel of ease here; but it is now converted into the town-hall, and the inhabitants go to the church of Talland on the sea coast, distant about a mile to the south west, in which parish the town stands. There was formerly a market here on Wednesdays, but it is long since disused; however, there is yet one fair annually held on the 5th of March for cattle, &c. &c. This town is much inferior to East Looe, as well in respect of trade as in the number of houses it contains: for though it had formerly a considerable pilchard fishery, it is now almost entirely lost. The manor of the town belongs to the crown, and was by Henry VIII. annexed to the duchy, from which it is now held by the corporation, at the yearly rent of 24s.

Near the mouth of the river Looe is a small island, called ST. GEORGE, in which great number of Sea-pies are annually bred.

At

At four miles distance to the north east of West Looe, and three miles from the road which extends eastward to Fowey, is the village of PLINT, which is no otherwise remarkable than for its fair on July 5, for cattle, &c.

At six miles distance to the east of Fowey, stands the village of LANSALLOS, where was a cell belonging to the abbey of Hertland in Devonshire.

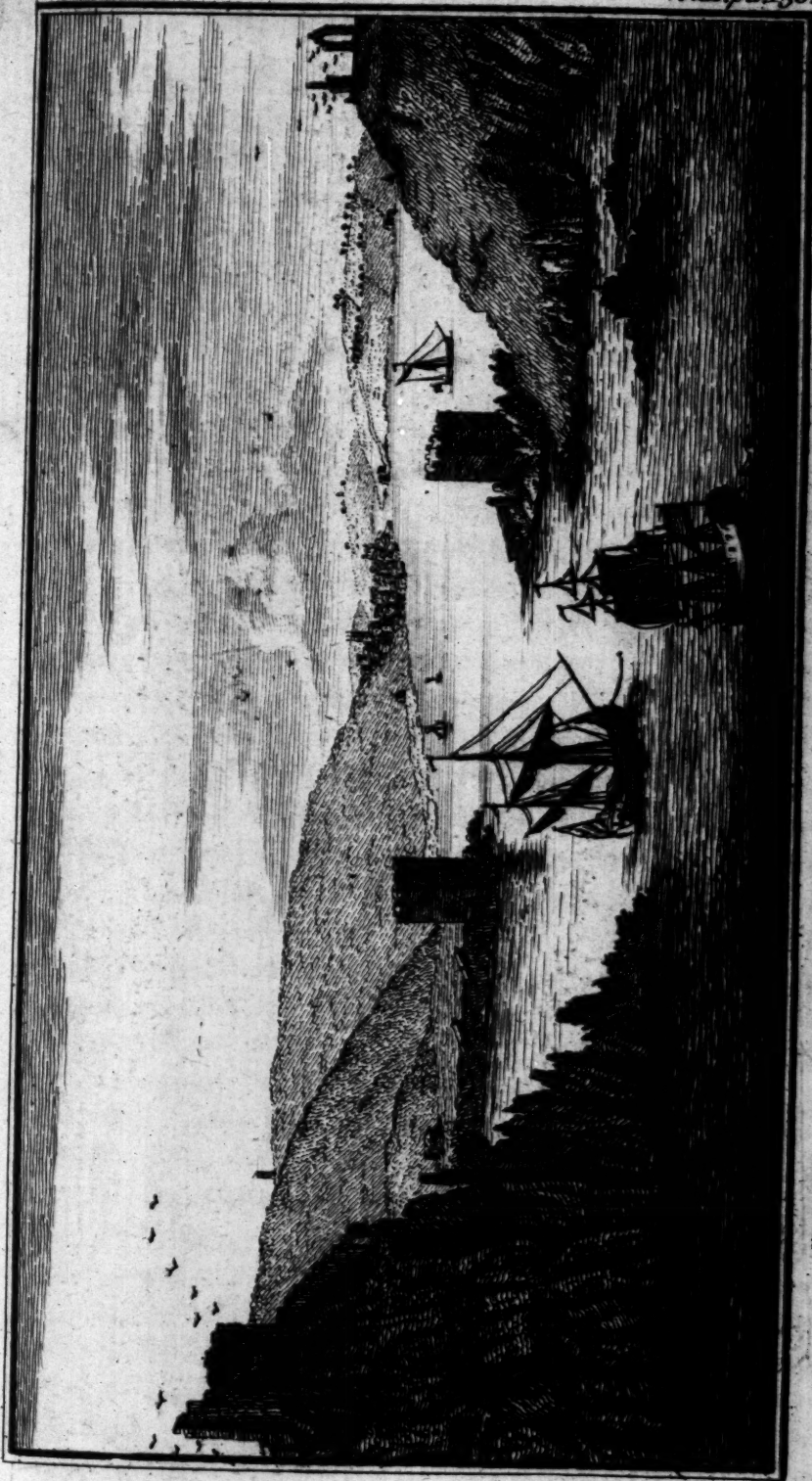
FOWEY, FAWEY, or FOY, is seated 26 miles to the west of Plymouth, and 240 south by west of London. Though it be a borough which sends two members to parliament, it is but a very indifferent place, the houses being built in such a confused manner as not to form one open street. The town extends near a mile by the side of the river, and has a large church with a lofty tower, a free school, and a public hospital. There are many flourishing merchants here, particularly in the pilchard trade, the harbour being very commodious for shipping; the entrance is narrow, and the channel very deep for three miles into the country, without either sands or rocks. The inhabitants of this place, were in former times, famous for their naval achievements, and were called the *Gallants of Fowey*; for some of their ships passing by Rye and Winchelsea, and refusing to strike, were attacked by the ships belonging to those places, which they defeated, whereupon they quartered their arms with those of Fowey; this happened in the reign of Edward III. Carew, who surveyed this county, says that 60 sail of tall ships once belonged to this port; and that 47 of them were sent to the siege of Calais. In the reign of Edward IV. the French threatening to come up the river to burn the town, the king, for its defence, caused two towers to be built opposite one to the other, between

tween which, in the last Dutch war, was a chain that extended 200 feet.

The towers are not yet totally ruined, but the chain has for many years been missing. At the mouth of the harbour, on the west side, are to be seen the ruins of an old castle; but, by whom built is uncertain; we have, however, given an engraved view of it with this work. It is not determined when this town was made a borough, but it is well known it returned no members till the 13th of Elizabeth; though in the time of Edward the third, Fowey and East Low, sent a merchant to a council at Westminster, to consult of sea affairs. The last mentioned prince, also gave the town the privilege of being a member of the cinque ports, for affording assistance to certain ships belonging to Rye, which were in distress. Fowey is governed by a mayor, eight aldermen, a recorder and two assistants. The representatives are elected by all the inhabitants, who pay scot and lot; and the mayor, while in office, and the next year, with the senior aldermen, are always justices of the peace. The market, which is held on Saturdays, is considerable, the town having a good trade, as well in fish as in several other sorts of merchandize. There are also two annual fairs, namely, on May 1, and September 10; and the toll of the market and fairs, together with the kayage of the harbour, are vested in the corporation, on payment of a fee-farm rent of about 40s. to the dutchy of Cornwall. Though this town is greatly decayed from what it once was, it is still defended by block houses, and iron ordnance.

About two miles north of Fowey, lies a stone, which not many years ago stood erect, at a place where two roads cross each other; this monument has, according to Leland, this inscription;

CUNOMOR



The South East View of Fowey Castle, in the County of Cornwall.



CUNOMOR ET FILIUS CUM DOMINA CLUSILLA; but Mr. Lhydd who was better acquainted with the old characters, says, it is CIRUSIUS HIC JACET CUNOWORI FILIUS. On the top is a little trough or pit, sunk six inches long, three deep, and four wide. Opposite to the side that is inscribed, there is a cross imbossed. Mr. Lhuyd, imagines it is of the fifth century, and that the W is an M inverted.

TREWARDRETH, or, according to the Monasticon, TYWERDREIT, is a village four miles N. W. of Fowey, and three south of Lostweithel, where was a Benedictine monastery, built on a bay of the same name. It was founded by Robert de Cardinan, in the reign of Richard I. and dedicated to St. Andrew; or, as others say, by Champernulphus, lord of the manor, in 1169. It was endowed with divers lands and revenues, and made a cell to St. Sergius, and St. Bachus at Angiers, in France. It survived the suppression of the alien priories, but fell at the general dissolution, when it was valued by Dugdale at 123l. a year, but by Speed at 152l.

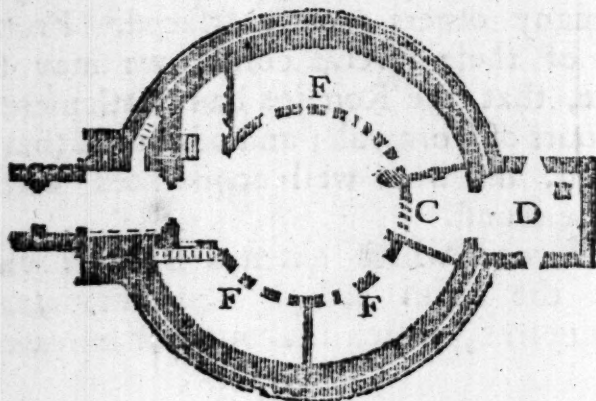
In this parish many Roman coins have been found, and carefully preserved by the family of Rashleigh, of Menabilly. Of these, there were of Valerian, one; Gallienus, three; Victorinus, twenty; Tetricus, fifteen; Claudius, nine; Aurelian, one; Maximinus, one; Constantin. Max. one; Constantin. Jun. one; Urbs Roma, one; besides many others greatly defaced. From the finding of these several coins, we may safely conclude, that the Romans had settlements on the harbours of Cornwall; and of course, that they conquered, and were well acquainted with this part of the island.

In the road which extends from Trewardreth, to the north east is LOSTWITHIEL, or LESTWEITHEL, which is about four miles and a half

half from the last mentioned town; 12 west of Liskard, and 228 south west of London. It is supposed to receive its name from the Cornish word *Loftwithiel*, which signifies a lion's tail, the earl of Cornwall, who resided here, bearing the lion for his arms. This town is seated on the banks of the river Fowey; which was, formerly, navigable for ships as high as this place, but it is now choaked up with sand, washed down from the tin mines. Loftwithiel was once a place of great note, being the residence of the dukes of Cornwall, who removed hither from Restormel castle, some ruins of which still remain, situated on a hill in the neighbourhood.

This castle is supposed, by Camden, to have been one of the principal, and most ancient seats of the earls and dukes of Cornwall, long before the conquest. The dukes had a park here, till it was disparked by Henry VIII. and near it stood the old town of Loftwithiel, till the inhabitants removed lower down with their duke. After their removal, the dukes built themselves a magnificent palace, part of which is still standing. Yet Mr. Borlase seems to be of opinion, that its present ruins are of a more modern date; but were built notwithstanding before the reign of Edward I.

That the reader may form some idea of its former magnificence, we have annexed a plan of the Keep.



It is built on a rocky knowl, on the side of a hill, overlooking a deep valley. The keep, which is standing, has an air of grandeur. The outer wall or rampart, is an exact circle, 102 feet diameter within, and 10 feet wide at the top, including the parapet, which is two feet six inches. From the present floor of the ground rooms to the top of the rampart, is 27 feet 6 inches; and the top of the parapet, is 7 feet higher, garreted quite round. There are three stair-cases leading to the top of the rampart, one on each side the gate-way, ascending from the court within, and the other between the inner and outer-most gate. The rooms are 19 feet wide, the windows being mostly in the inner wall, marked F. in the plan; but there have been in the outer wall some large openings, like Gothick church windows, now walled up; these are all on the chamber floor, where the rooms of state seem to have been; and from this floor, you pass on a level to the chapel, D. which is only 25 feet 6 inches, by 17 feet 6; but there seems to be an anti-chapel marked C. This chapel, the windows, and the gateway, are more modern than the keep; being made not for war, and security, but convenience and grandeur; yet were these parts, at least as ancient as the time of Edward I. The offices belonging to this castle were in the bass-court. The great hall and exchequer, were defaced and spoiled of their ornaments, by the parliamentary party, in the year 1644. Only a small part of this noble pile now remains; and this is repaired for a prison, and stannery court for the coinage of tin.

At Lostwithiel the county courts are kept, and and it was formerly the county town, the members for the county being still chosen here. It holds the bushelage of coals, salt, malt, and corn, in Fowey, and the anchorage of its harbour, for
which

which it pays to the dutchy a rent of 11l. 19s. 10d. per annum; and has a weekly market on Friday.

Loftwithiel is thinly inhabited, and but a small trade is carried on, which is chiefly in woollen manufactures. It was first incorporated by Richard earl of Cornwall, when he was king of the Romans; and is now governed by a mayor, six capital burgeses, and seventeen common council men; who elect the members to represent the borough in parliament. The town now consists of about 100 houses, and the streets are bad, though paved; the church is dedicated to St. Bartholomew, and was the only church in the county with a spire steeple, that of Helston excepted, but the spire and steeple were consumed and shattered by lightening, on the 25th of Jan. 1757, and have not since been replaced. The stone spire, with the vane, clock and bell were destroyed. The steeple, before this accident happened, was carried up plain and square 49 feet, with a kind of slate stone, roughcast on the outside; upon which was formed a very elegant Gothic lanthorn, about 9 feet high; and from that the stone spire arose 52 feet; with a spindle and vane, rising about three feet above the stone; so that the whole height was about 113 feet. Each face of the lanthorn, was finished with a sort of a Gothic pediment, having on it a small pinnacle, separated from the body of the spire.

There are three annual fairs kept here, namely on June 29, August 24, and November 2, for oxen, heifers, sheep, and a few hops.

About five miles south west of Loftwithiel, and about the same distance north west of Fowey, stands ST. BLAZEY, which is a chapelry annexed to St. Austle, from which it is distant about three miles to the east. There is a fair held here on the second of February.

In this parish is a slender stone, seven feet six inches high, one foot six inches wide, and eight inches thick; it has inscriptions on both sides, and is supposed to have been set up since the year 900. Some have thought it was erected by the Saxons, to shew how far they penetrated to the west. This monument is, however, found to be sepulchral. The inscription on the south side, according to Mr. Borlase, contains the name ALRON in three lines, with a cross before the first letter. On the north side is supposed to be the name of the father of the deceased, which is either VILICI, or ULLICI; the next line has a cross, and after it FILIUS. The characters are much worn, and were certainly at first very barbarously engraven. The stone is ornamented on each side, with rectangles variously embossed, which are purposely counterchanged. In a little meadow adjoining to the place where this stone now stands, many human bones have been found, it was therefore probably a place of public sepulture, and from thence this cross might possibly have been removed.

ST. AUSTLE, or ST. AUSTEL, is a market town about 9 miles south west of Lostwithiel, in the road to Grampound. It was formerly of some note, but went to decay like many other towns in this county; at last, however, the privilege of a Friday's market being granted to the inhabitants, trade seemed a little to revive, and it is now more considerable than many boroughs which send representatives to parliament. The vicarage is of value, and is in the gift of the crown.

The authors of *England Illustrated*, say, that this town is not mentioned in the *Magna Britannia*, or in any other book they had seen, yet they will find their mistake, by turning to page 344,
of

of the first volume of the *Magna Britannia*, where they will find mention made of it, as a market town. It is also mentioned in the *Grand Gazateer* as a town. It has three annual fairs, namely, on Good-friday, Thursday in Whitsun-week, and Nov. 10, for horses, oxen, sheep, cloth, and some hops.

ST. STEPHEN'S, is a village about five miles nearly north of Grampound, only noted for having three annual fairs, namely on May 12, July 31, and Sept. 25, for cattle, cloth, &c.

GRAMPOUND, or GRAMPONT, is situated on the river Fale or Vale, three miles north of Tregony, and 252 south west of London. It is a mean place, consisting of about fourscore houses, and is of no great antiquity. It sends, however, two representatives to parliament, who are chosen by the inhabitants paying scot and lot; who amount to about 50 in number. It was made a borough in the time of Edward III. but sent no members to parliament till the reign of Edward IV. It is governed by a mayor, eight aldermen, a recorder and town-clerk. The town consists of only one long street, and has no church, it being in the parish of Creed, which is about a mile distant; there is, however, a chapel of ease. This being an ancient manor belonging to the duchy, the corporation was by a charter of Edward III. endowed with great privileges, as a market, fairs, and in particular exempted from all tolls, throughout the county; these privileges the burgesses still hold in fee-farm at the rent of 12l. 11s. 4d. per annum; the above charter having been confirmed by Henry VIII. The market is held here on Saturdays, and the inhabitants keep three annual fairs, namely, on January 18, March 25, and June 11, for cattle.

Three

Three miles to the S. W. of Grampound, is TREGONEY, which is also situated on the river Fale, that is navigable for boats as high as this town, and falls into Falmouth haven. The castle, which was formerly its greatest ornament, is now in ruins, and the town itself is much decayed, since St. Austel, in its neighbourhood, got the grant of a market. Tregony, was formerly of some note, for we find that it made two returns of representatives to serve in parliament, so early as the 23d and 25th years of the reign of Edward I. and in the 30th of the same king's reign, Henry de Pomeroy, then lord of the town, certified his right to a market, fair, and other privileges, and it was allowed. From this time Tregony was not represented in parliament, till the first year of the reign of queen Elizabeth, when it returned two members, and has continued so to do ever since. In the 19th of James I. it was by charter incorporated, and is now governed by a mayor, seven capital burgessees, and a recorder. The representatives are elected by all the householders who boil the pot, being in number about 150. A weekly market is held here on Saturdays, and there are five annual fairs, viz. on Shrove Tuesday, May 3, July 25, September 1, and November 6, for oxen, horses, sheep, cloth, and a few hops. Though the town is greatly reduced of late years, yet is there still a kind of coarse serge made, but in no considerable quantity. About the month of March, 1761, some tanners being employed on a new mine, in the neighbourhood of this town, one of them struck his pickaxe on a large stone coffin, on the lid of which there were some characters, but so much defaced as to be unintelligible. On opening it there was found the skeleton of a man of gigantic size, but on being touched, the whole of it mouldered

dered into dust, except one tooth, which remained whole and entire; this tooth measured in length two inches and a half, and was thick in proportion. The length of the coffin was eleven feet three inches, and the depth three feet nine inches.

Three miles and a half west of Grampound, on the road to Truro, is *PROBUS*, a village of no great note; it has three annual fairs, namely on May 4, July 5, and September 17, chiefly for cattle. There was a collegiate church here dedicated to St. Probus, before the conquest; it was held by Edward the Confessor himself, and must either have been granted to the canons by him, or soon after. There were five prebends, and Henry of Bolish was made dean, by the bishop of Exeter, in 1258. The perpetual patronage of the prebends seems to have been granted by this dean ten years afterwards to the bishop of Exeter and his successors. No more deans are mentioned; but soon after the greatest part of the revenues, with the advowson, patronage of prebends, &c. were given to the treasurer of the church of Exeter for the time being. There were five prebendaries at the general surrender, who had each a salary, amounting in the whole to 16l. 9s. 4d.

TRAGANATHAW, is an inconsiderable village, about two miles S. W. of Truro. It has, however, two annual fairs, namely, on May 6, and August 12, for cattle, &c.

TRURO, one of the most considerable towns in Cornwall, is seated about 12 miles north of Falmouth, and 274 south west of London. It is of great antiquity, being called *Truergeu* in Domes-day book, and had a market and fair, so long ago as the 30th of Edward I. ever since which period of time, it has regularly sent its representatives

presentatives to parliament. Truro contains 600 houses, many of which are very handsome, and well built; the streets are paved, and it has a good old Gothic church; the market house is large, and well supplied with provisions of all sorts, besides other commodities on the two market days, which are on Wednesday and Saturday in every week. Truro being situated on the river Fal, where it forms a branch of Falmouth haven, and receives another small river, is a place of great trade, having a very extensive wharf, with a commodious quay capable of receiving goods from ships of 100 tons burthen. This town was first incorporated in the reign of king John, afterwards by queen Elizabeth, and is now governed by a mayor, four aldermen, twenty capital burgeses, and a recorder. The mayor has great privileges; he claims being also mayor of Falmouth, and the port dues of that place belong to this corporation. The representatives are chosen by the mayor, aldermen, and burgeses, the mayor being the returning officer. On the election of a mayor, the town maces must by custom be delivered up to the lord of the manor, till sixpence is paid for every house in the town, by way of acknowledgement. This being one of the coinage towns, very considerable quantities of tin and copper ores are shipped off here. Of this last there are several mines in the mountainous tract, betwixt Truro and St. Michael's, which are wrought to great advantage, since the battery mills have been erected near Bristol. The quarter sessions, for the western division of the county being held here, bring a great resort of company, and the town's people are in general, affable and well-bred. Leland informs us, that it once had a castle, now entirely demolished, which was situated at a small distance, on the west

west side of the town. There was also in Kenwyn-street, near the river of that name, a convent of black friars, about the end of the reign of king Henry the third. In this town the lord Warden of the Stanneries, holds his parliament, and laws are enacted for the due government of the tanners. There are in Truro, held annually, four fairs, namely, on the Wednesday in Midlent, Wednesday in Whitsun-week, Nov. 19, and Dec. 18, chiefly for cattle. This town has given the title of baron to the family of Roberts.

In the parish of ST. CLEMENT's, near Truro, is a monument which now serves for a gate post. It is inscribed with Roman capitals, and being read at length, would in the opinion of Mr. Borlase be. ISNIOCUS VITALIS FILLIUS TORRICI. This is supposed to be of great antiquity, probably Roman, or at least set up soon after they left Britain. This stone has at present a large cross on it in bass relief; which is singular, but it was perhaps of latter date than the inscription.

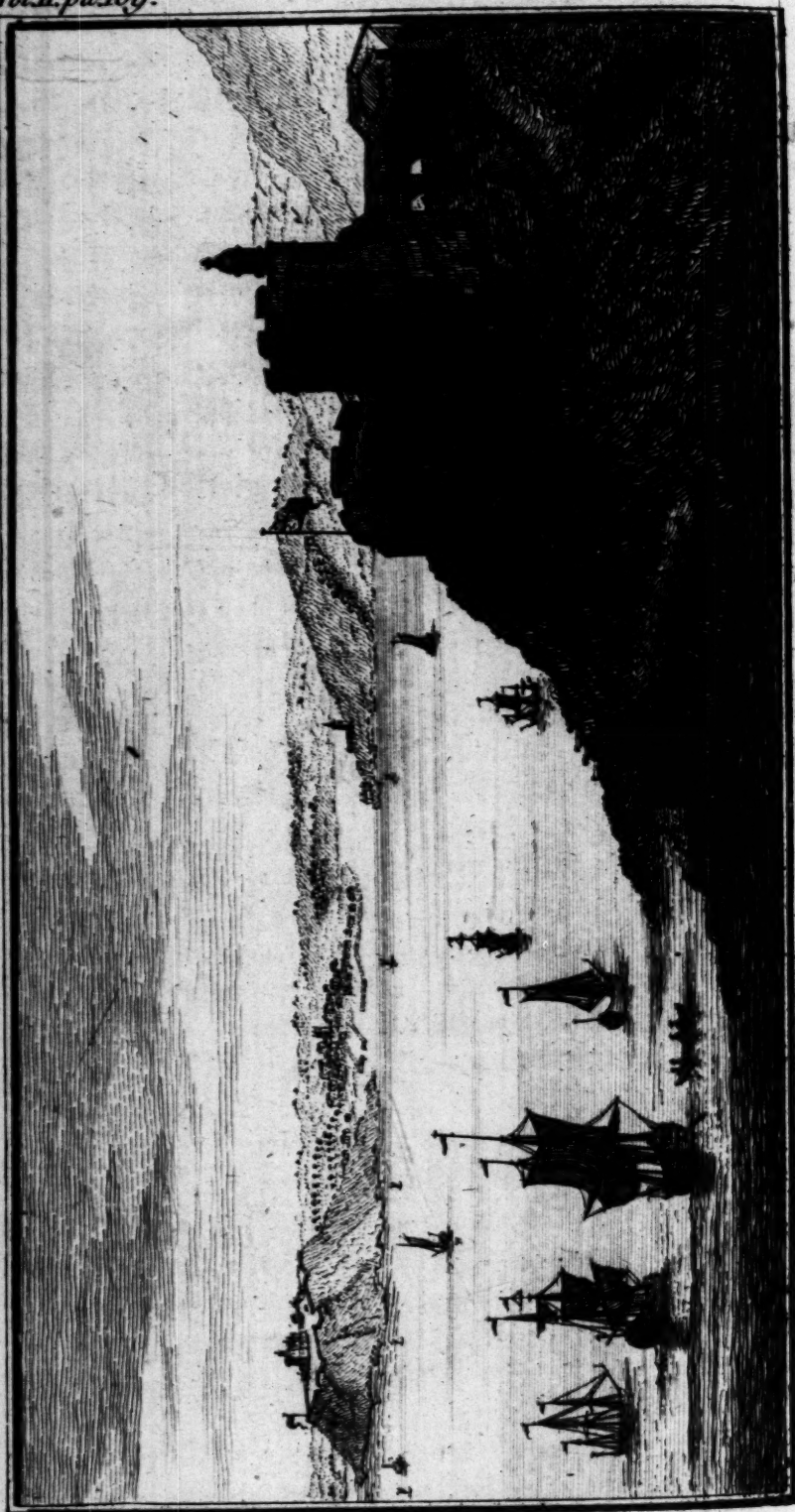
About two miles below Truro, in a ditch near Mopas passage, were found twenty pounds weight of Roman brass coins, amongst which there were no more than one of Severus Alexander, and one of Valerian. Mr. Borlase examined about 3000 of this parcel, and found them all from Galienus to Carinus, the first began his reign in the year 259, and Carinus reigned about two years with Carus and Numerian; that is to say, from 282 to 284; they were therefore probably deposited, in the reign of the last mentioned emperor, consequently before the count of the Saxon shore was appointed, but upon what occasion is no easy matter to guess.

We must not omit taking notice of ST. MICHAEL's PENKIVIL, or PENKERIL, which lies on a branch of Falmouth Haven, about 4 miles S. E.



The East View of St. Maw's Castle, in the County of Cornwall.

Vol. II. pa. 169.



S. E. of Truro. In the church of this parish, an elegant monument of exquisite workmanship, designed by Adams, and erected by Rysbrach, was in the year 1763, erected to the memory of that much esteemed officer, the late admiral Boscawen, by his widow. The character given of this great man, in the inscription on his monument, is deeply impressed on the hearts of his countrymen, who sincerely lament his unlooked for death.

About 7 miles to the south east of Truro, and on the east side of Falmouth harbour is TALUARN, or TALVARN, where was a monastery of black monks of the Angels, (they are so called by Mr. Speed); but who these monks of the Angels were, Mr. Tanner declares himself ignorant.

Ten miles to the south of Truro, is ST. MAW's, or ST. MAUDIT's, a hamlet, in the parish of St. Just, the church of which is distant from it about two miles to the north. It consists of one street, facing the sea. The houses are but few in number, and the inhabitants poor, they being principally fishermen; yet the portreeve, who is the chief magistrate, with 30 or 40 sworn freemen, have the privilege of electing two members to serve in parliament, which they have enjoyed ever since the 5th of Elizabeth. This place is about four miles east of Falmouth, on the other side of the haven, and here king Henry VIII. built a castle, at the same time he built that of Pendennis for the defence of the harbour. The castle not being strong, is little regarded, though it has a few great guns, a governor with a salary of 365l. per annum, and a lieutenant governor who has above 45l. per annum, with gunners, and other officers.

ST. ANTHONY is a small town, near the mouth of Falmouth haven, about two miles south of

St. Maw's. At this place there was a cell for two canons, annexed to Plimpton abbey in Devonshire, from which house, though there are now no remains of it left, the town probably arose.

Alexander Carew, of this place, beheaded for endeavouring to deliver Plimouth to king Charles I. was a gentleman of large fortune, and one of the knights for the county of Cornwall. In the beginning he was against the measures of the court, and was intrusted by parliament, with the government of St. Michael's island and fort; which, however, he attempted in hopes of reward and pardon from the king, to deliver up into his majesty's possession. However, his design was laid open to the parliament, whereupon he was suddenly seized, and without resistance carried prisoner to Plymouth, in which place the women were so enraged against him, that it was difficult to rescue him from their execution. From Plymouth he was sent by sea to London, where the house of commons expelled him; and being tried by a court martial, he was found guilty, and beheaded on Tower-hill, the 23^d of Dec. 1644.

A road extends south-west from Truro to PENRYN, which is situated on the west side of a hill, near the entrance of Falmouth haven. It is a neat pleasant place, containing about 300 houses, many of which are well built, and the streets broad and well paved. A creek of the sea being close to the town, it has a good quay with a commodious custom-house. There is a free-school here, founded by queen Elizabeth, with a prison and a guildhall. The town is part of the parish of St. Gluvias, the church of which is distant from it about a mile to the east. Penryn is so considerable as to have three markets held weekly, namely, on Wednesdays and Fridays for corn, and on Saturdays for provisions. It has three

three annual fairs, on May 1, July 7, and Dec. 21, chiefly for cattle. Many merchants reside here, and the inhabitants carry on a large trade in catching, curing, and exporting pilchards; they also come in for their share of the Newfoundland trade, and a manufactory has been lately set up for making serges. This place is an ancient manor belonging to the see of Exeter, of which it is now held by the corporation, at a small annual rent. It was a free borough, and had a market before the 30th of Edward I. and has sent representatives to parliament ever since the first of queen Mary, yet was it not incorporated till the 18th of James I. who appointed it to be governed by nine aldermen, one of them to be mayor, twelve common council men, a recorder, steward, and other inferior officers. It is now, however, governed by a mayor, four aldermen, and a town-clerk. The members are chosen by the inhabitants at large, who pay scot and lot, and the number of electors at present, are between 200 and 300. Walter Bronefcomb, who was bishop of Exeter, about the year 1270, first made this town a free borough, and also built a collegiate church, on a moor in its neighbourhood, called Glasenith. It was dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and St. Thomas of Canterbury, and consisted of a provost, a sacrist, eleven prebendaries, seven vicars, and six choristers, and the yearly value of it at the suppression was 205l. 12s. 6d. It was strongly walled, had three towers, and in aftertimes several guns were mounted for its defence; the ruins of it, are not, however, very considerable.

We must not quit this article of Penryn, without relating a very remarkable circumstance, said to have happened there. It is recorded by Heywood, in his apology for actors, printed some

time in the reign of king James the first. This writer tells us, that about twelve years, or less, before the publication of his book, a company of strollers, playing late in the night at Perin (Penryn) in Cornwall, happened to be representing a battle on the stage, and suddenly struck up a loud alarm, with their drums and trumpets; just as a party of Spaniards, who had privately landed the same night, were marching to make a real attack on the town, but hearing the alarm abovementioned, they apprehending a discovery, retired with precipitation to their boats, only firing a few shots by way of bravado; thus were the townsmen delivered from an impending danger, by the accidental representation of a play.

On a high hill, in the wilds of Wendron parish, a few miles to the N. W. of Penryn, is an ancient monument, composed of four thin flat stones laid one upon the other, the upper stone of which is irregular, and nineteen feet in diameter; at the bottom is a circular trench, the diameter of which is 35 feet and a half.

In the year 1700, as some tinnerns were opening a barrow of stone, called Golvadnek-barrow, in the wilds of Wendron parish, they came at last to large stones, disposed in the manner of a vault, in which was an urn full of ashes, and a fine chequered brick pavement; but this, and the urn, they ignorantly broke to pieces. In the same place there were several Roman brass coins of the second size, and a small instrument of brass set in ivory; supposed to be used by the Roman ladies about their hair. The coins were much defaced; but on one of them the words *Diva Fustina* were very legible, and another had the head of Lucilla, wife of the emperor Verus; but the inscription was quite defaced, and the head much spoiled. About a furlong from Golvadnek,

on

on a hill called Karn-menelez, there are two barrows of the same kind; in one of which, the country people say, were found some coins of Julius Cæsar; this is, however, improbable, but it is not at all unlikely, that coins of some of the Cæsars were here found, which the ignorant people, not knowing there were more than one Cæsar, of course attributed to Julius.

FALMOUTH, is a celebrated sea port town, situated on the west side of the harbour of the same name, 11 miles S. of Truro, and 282 S. W. of London. This town, which is by far the most considerable in the county, stands at the mouth of the river Fal, whence it receives its name; and the harbour is spacious, commodious and safe, having a deep channel, and a bold shore, secured from almost all winds, by winding creeks, and rising hills on every side. In the middle of the harbour's mouth, is a rock called the Craige, visible at low water; but when the tide is up, a long pole is fixed on it, to point out to mariners its situation. Here the packets for Spain, Portugal, the West Indies, and North America are stationed; this place being conveniently situated for getting clear of the channel. The inhabitants carry on a considerable trade in the pilchard fishery, and to Lisbon; and in war time are sure to grow rich, on account of the ships of war belonging to the port, which is said to be capable of receiving the whole British navy. This town was formerly included in the parish of St. Gluvias, as Penryn now is, and had only a chapel of ease; but by an act of the 16th of Charles II. the chapel was made parochial. The custom-house, for most of the Cornish sea port towns is at this place, and here the principal collector resides; though the corporation of Truro is, as we have already observed, entitled

to several port dues here, particularly for wharfage for all merchandizes, landed, or shipped off. Falmouth is governed by a mayor, and aldermen, and has a considerable market on Thursdays, with two annual fairs, namely, on July 27, and October 10, chiefly for cattle. It is but of late years, that this town has become well known, which is chiefly owing to its excellent and commodious harbour being lately made one of the stations for the royal navy, and the packet boats sailing hence. For the defence of the harbour, king Henry VIII. built two strong castles, St. Maws', situated on the east side, and Pendennis on the west side, being situated a little to the south east of the town. It stands on an eminence, formed into a peninsula by the sea, which almost surrounds it. This castle is large, and well fortified, the works having been considerably augmented by queen Elizabeth; there is usually, (especially in time of war) a garrison kept here. It held out long for Charles I. but after a close siege, was at length obliged to surrender to the parliament forces. Our English poet Drayton, in his Polyolbion, has the following lines in praise of Falmouth harbour.

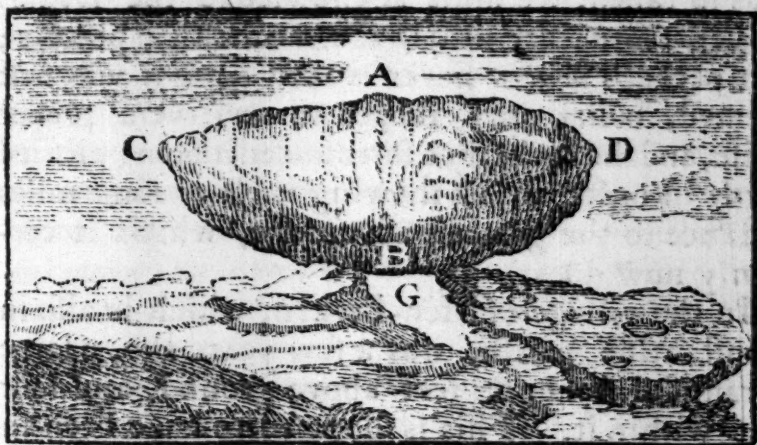
Heere Vale, a lively flood, her nobler name that
 gives
 To Falmouth; and by whom, it famous ever
 lives,
 Whose entrance is from sea so intricately wound,
 Her haven angled so about her harbours sound,
 That in her quiet bay a hundred ships may ride,
 Yet not the tallest mast, be of the tall'st descri'd.

Falmouth gives the title of viscount, to the family of Boscawen, barons of Boscawen Rose.

CONSTAN-

CONSTENTON, or CONSTANTINE, is situated to the west of Falmouth haven, and about five miles south west of Penryn. The church here seems to have been of more than ordinary note, and was probably collegiate. The living is a vicarage, in the patronage of the dean and chapter of Exeter.

In the tenement of Mên, in this parish, is an astonishing monument, of which there are several in Cornwall, called Tolmen, or the hole of stone. This consists of one vast oval pebble, placed on the points of two natural rocks, so that a man may creep under the great one, through a passage three feet wide, and about the same height. Of this monument we have given a cut.



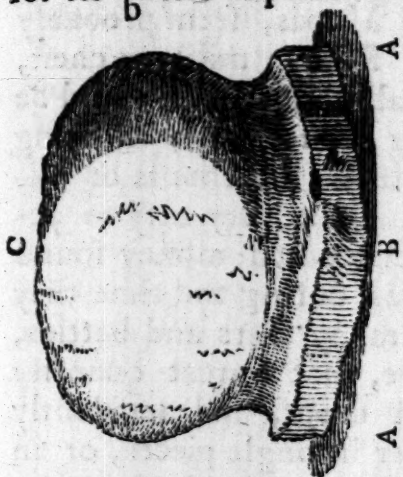
The longest diameter of this stone from C. to D. is 33 feet, pointing due north and south. From A. to B. measures 14 feet 6 inches; and the breadth in the middle of the surface, where widest, is 18 feet 6 inches, from east to west. The circumference of it is about 97 feet, and it is thought to contain at least 750 ton of stone. The whole surface is worked into basons, like an imperfect or mutilated honey comb, one at the

south end, much larger than the rest, is about 7 feet long, another at the north, about 5 feet; the rest are less, seldom exceeding a foot, and sometimes smaller, the sides and shapes of them being irregular. Most of the smaller basons discharge themselves into the two largest, those only excepted, which are situated near the edge of the stone; these discharge the water they collect over the sides of the Tolmen, and some basons which are in the flat rock underneath receive it. The under part of this wonderful stone, which is nearly semicircular rests lightly, and detached as it were, on the points of two large rocks, all the sky appearing at G. It is not possible to determine whether this stone was, or was not raised by art, and placed in the position we now find it. If it was so raised, we must acknowledge the Druids had extraordinary skill in the mechanical powers; but perhaps it was never moved since it was first formed, being only shaped to preserve a proper poise, and the rocks that surrounded it being cleared away in order to its shewing itself at some miles distance to the greatest advantage, which it certainly now does.

In the village of Mên-Perken, which is also in Constantine parish, was a few years ago, a large pyramidal stone, 20 feet above ground, and four feet within it. This is supposed to have been an antient idol. Besides these, the druids held consecrated rocks in such esteem, that if we may credit an account from Ireland, the famous stone of Clogher was covered over with gold. It is probable that these rocks and stones, were first chosen to represent their gods, from their long continuance, and their receiving little alteration from length of time.

In the same parish is a stone of very uncommon shape, it is like the Greek letter Omega,
and

and somewhat resembles a cap. Of this stone for its better explanation, we have given a cut.



In the impost upon the plint AA. it is 30 feet in girt, and eleven feet high from B to C. The ground about it is rough and uneven, as if there had been buildings near it, and the rocks adjoining shew the marks of the workmens tools, as if they had begun to form them

by the model of the other.

By an arm of the sea, called Helford Haven, to the south west of Falmouth, is CONDORA, which is situated on a hill, washed on each side by the sea, and is supposed to be a Roman fortification. Near it is an old vallum, also thought to be the remains of a Roman work, and stretching almost from sea to sea. Near Condora there were dug up in the year 1735, twenty-four gallons of Roman brass money, all of them of Constantine and his family, and had either the heads of that emperor, or were of the cities of Rome or Constantinople. This money was probably designed for paying the common soldiers. On the other side of this haven, forty Roman coins were found, four of which were of the largest size; the first, which was of Domitian, has a bold impression, and was of copper; the second was of Trajan, of bright brass; and the third was of the younger Faustina. There were other coins also found here; but as they were of the lower empire, they need not be mentioned in particular. As the coins met with in this county, have been sometimes found single, here and there one, or a

few only together; these seem to have been dropped by accident; but the coins found in heaps, as at Condora and Mopas, seem probably to have been part of the Roman military chest, as such quantities of small copper coin could be of other use than to pay the soldiers; it being absurd to imagine, that either merchants or misers would lay them up. It is very easy to account for the quantity of Roman money found in Britain. This island was, during the time they resided here, the seat of many wars and battles, and we can easily conceive, that a great quantity of money must have been dropt, and accidentally lost by the soldiery, either in single pieces, or in purses, and it is not at all improbable but they frequently hid their money in their tents, when they went out to an engagement, from whence they might never return. When soldiers were closely besieged, or suddenly driven from a strong hold, they might also hide whatever small sums they had about them wherever they could; but the large quantities at Condora and Mopas, we cannot suppose to be any other than parts of the paymaster's stores, for the conveniency of the soldiers, and buried in the places where they were found, upon some sudden alarm, when there was no time to carry them off. That there should be more brass, than gold or silver coins found in this county, is not at all surprizing; the latter being more portable and of greater value, the officers and soldiers would of course take more care of them, and carry what money they had of this kind with them when they moved; as for the brass, they were glad to bury it, being an incumbrance, hoping sometime or other to recover it.

From Falmouth, a road extends to HELSTON, which is situated 14 miles south of Falmouth, and

and about 274 from London. It is a considerable borough town, supposed to contain above 400 houses. Leland calls it Hailstoun, otherwise Hellas, and tells us it stood on a hill, and formerly had a castle; and that the parish church was at the north west end of the town; he also informs us that the hospital of St. John was then standing. Helston is seated on the river Low, and has a good harbour belonging to it, at which many of the tin ships take in their lading. The town is populous, and consists chiefly of four streets, which intersect each other in form of a cross, and through each street, runs a stream of water. In the center of the town stands the market place, and there is also a guild hall, with a neat church lately rebuilt, the steeple of which serves for a sea mark. The name of this town, in Cornish is Hellaz, but authors differ respecting the meaning of the word. Helston is a part of the royal demesne, and so it is called in Domes-day book; the townsmen hold it of the kings of England, under a quit-rent of 13l. 6s. 8d. which they pay for the toll, mills, and 33 acres of land adjoining; this was granted them in fee-farm, by a charter of king John, anno 1200, of whom, for 40 marks, and a palfrey, they purchased the liberty of building a guild; of paying no toll, but in the city of London; of being impleaded no where but in their own borough, and of enjoying the privileges of the burghesses of Launceston-castle. Their fairs and market were also granted them by the same king. Though this is so ancient a borough, it was not incorporated till the reign of queen Elizabeth, who by charter, appointed it to be governed by a mayor, and four aldermen; these last are to be of the common council, and are to chuse 24 assistants. This charter was confirmed by Charles the first, who farther granted,

granted, that the mayor for the time being, the recorder, and the preceding mayor, should have power to act as justices of the peace within the borough, and keep a quarter sessions. This town sends two representatives to parliament, who are chosen by the sworn freemen of the corporation, about 70 in number, and about 10 out-burgeses. The manor belongs to the dukes of Cornwall, and Helston is one of the four stannery or coinage towns. It gives the title of baron to the ancient, and illustrious family of Godolphin, the late earl being succeeded in the title by Francis Godolphin, the present lord Godolphin of Helston.

There was formerly a castle here, and a small priory or hospital, founded by one Killegrew, and dedicated to St. John the Baptist, its revenues at the dissolution, amounted only to 12l. 16s. 4d. per annum.

There is at Helston a good weekly market, on Saturdays, and it has seven annual fairs, namely, on Saturday before Midlent Sunday; Saturday before Palm Sunday, Whit-Monday, July 20, September 9, Nov. 8. and the second Saturday before Christmas, all for cattle.

In a field at TRELOWARREN, the seat of the Vivians, about 4 miles nearly E. of Helston, there was opened in 1751, a barrow of earth very wide and not five feet high. When the workmen came to the middle, they found a parcel of stones placed in some order, which being removed, discovered a cavity about two feet in diameter, and of the same height. It was surrounded and covered with stone, and contained bones mixed with wood ashes; at the distance of a few feet from the central cavity, there were found two urns, with their mouths turned downwards, and within them small bones and ashes. Three thin bits of brass

brass were found near the middle, covered with verdigrise, and were supposed to be part of some warlike instrument.

In places where they were easily collected, the barrows are composed of stone, which are seldom larger than one soldier might easily carry; but in other places they were formed with earth. Besides these plain barrows, there are others which shew greater art; they being surrounded with a single row of stones, forming the base, or with a ring and fosse of earth. Many have a large flat stone on the top, and some a pillar, with now and then an inscription, but oftener without. The barrows intended for private persons, were placed near publick roads; but the sepulchres of common soldiers were generally on the field of battle. On St. Austle's Downs, in Cornwall, the barrows lye sometimes, two, three, and even seven in a strait line. Their size is various, but generally large, in proportion to the quality of the deceased, or the vanity of the survivors.

Urns have been found in most of the barrows, that have been examined by the curious, in some, however, there are no urns, but in, or near the centre, are round or square pits, containing black greasy earth; in other barrows there are neither urns, nor little repositories instead of them, but human skeletons, without any sign of their having passed through the fire. This way of burying under tumuli, was so universal, that it is not easy to decide by what particular nation any barrow was erected, unless some criterion within it determine the uncertainty. Thus we may form some conjecture from the materials and workmanship of the urn, the cell that contains it, or from coins or instruments of war, or domestick life, which may accompany the bones, but where these, or such like matters are wanting, conjectures are vain. If, however, it be true
that

that the Saxons and Danes, had left off burning their dead, before their arrival and settlement in this island, as hath been thought by some learned men, we may then safely conclude that all the barrows in Cornwall, and perhaps in other parts of the British islands, containing urns or ashes, must be either British or Roman; for being distant from the sea shore, they cannot well be attributed to the Phœnician, or Grecian traders; and of these, such as have no coins, or pavements underneath, or elegance in the workmanship of the urns, or choice of materials of which the urns were made, or Roman camp, or way, near, or in a line with them, were probably not Roman. It is indeed difficult to distinguish the British barrows, from those erected by the Saxons and Danes, yet such as contain human skeletons, are for many reasons more likely to belong to the two last nations than the first.

On the south side of Helford passage, near the mouth of the river, which runs up to Helston, is **ST. ANTHONY** in Meney, where as early as the time of Richard I. was a priory of black monks, subordinate to the abbey of Trewardreth.

GODOLPHIN is a village, about 5 miles north of Helston. It was anciently written Godolcan, and was famous for tin mines; but more so for giving name to the noble family of Godolphin, who were lords of it even in the time of William the Conqueror, and took their name from it. Sidney, second son to Sir Francis Godolphin, was by Charles II. created baron Godolphin of Rialton, and afterwards by queen Ann, Dec. 29, 1706, Viscount Rialton, and earl of Godolphin. He was lord high treasurer of England, and his only son Francis married the lady Henrietta Churchill, eldest daughter to John duke of Marlborough.

About

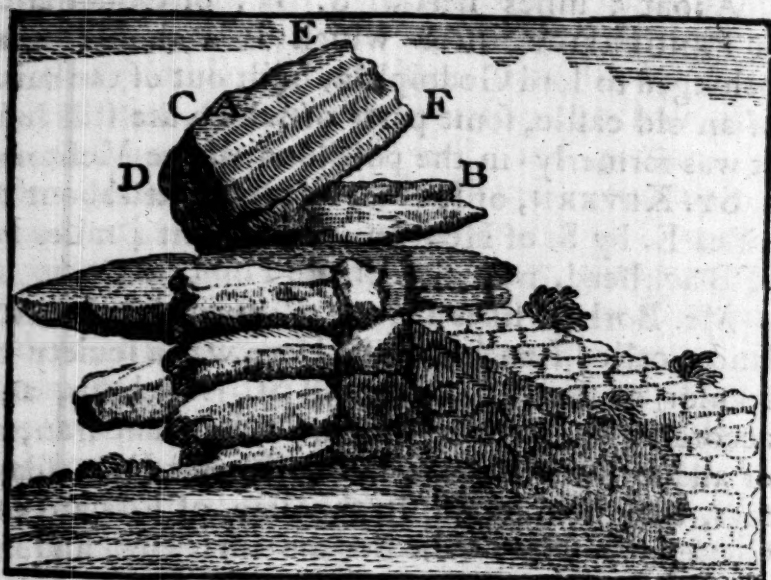
About 5 miles nearly S. W. of Godolphin, is PENGERSICK, near which is a house that belonged to lord Godolphin, built out of the ruins of an old castle, some parts of which are still left. It was formerly in the possession of the Melitons.

ST. KEVERN, or KEVERYN, is situated about 12 miles E. by S. of Helston; and about 4 miles N. of Blackhead, near the Lizard Point.

Mr. Borlase fixes here a religious house with lands, called Lanachebran. Here was a society of secular canons, dedicated to St. Achebran, and according to Tanner they held Lanachebran, at or about the conquest. The Exeter Domesday, says, they held it also in the time of Edward the Confessor. Now Mr. Borlase imagines, and indeed we are of the same opinion, that as St. Achebran, is not to be found in this county, it might have been contracted into Kebran, or according to the Cornish idiom Kevran, the same as Kiaranus, now called St. Kevern, or St. Keveryn. Many have confounded this church with St. Piran, hereafter mentioned; but they are quite distinct, the last having been granted to the church of Exeter, whereas the patronage of this church is in lay hands, belonging to the Bulteels of Fleet, in Devon, and before them to the Hales of the same place.

In the parish of SITHNEY, about four miles N. W. of Helston, stood the famous Logan stone, called Mên-amber. This stone was so well poised that a child could move it. The present situation of it will be best seen by the cut.

The name Mên-amber is probably a corruption of Mên-an-bar, which signifies nothing more than the top stone. That these stones were monuments erected by the druids can admit of no doubt.



It is eleven feet long from east to west, four feet deep from E. to F. and six wide from C. to D. there is no bason on the surface A, but on the stone B. there is one. In Cromwell's time the governor of Pendennis, caused the upper stone A. with much trouble, to be undermined and thrown down, by cutting away part of the stone B. This was done, because the puritans imagined that the country people had more veneration for this stone, than good Christians ought to have. There are some marks of the tool on this stone, the surface C. D being wrought into a wavy plane.

From Heston a road leads northwest to MARKET-JEW, which takes its name from its market held on Thursday, Dei Jovis, in Cornish Jeu. This town is in many maps called Marazion, which might probably be its ancient name. It is situated on Mount's Bay, 10 miles east of Heston, 4 west of Penzance, and about 285 to the south west of London; but it is a mean inconsiderable place, and the harbour belonging to it, is little frequented, it being both unsafe and inconvenient. Market-jew has two annual fairs, the first three weeks

weeks before Easter Eve, and the other on Sept. 29, for cattle, &c.

ST. MICHAEL'S MOUNT, near Market-jew, as the sea flows or ebbs, is alternately either an island, or joined to the main land by a large beach of sand and pebbles. It had on its top a priory of Benedictine monks, founded by Edward the Confessor; but Robert earl of Cornwall, and Moriton, nephew to William the Conqueror, before the year 1085, annexed it as a cell to the larger monastery of St. Michael de Periculo Maris, in Normandy. Richard king of the Romans, Edmund earl of Cornwall, and Conan duke of Brittany, were all benefactors to this house; and in the year 1155, Pope Adrian confirmed all their lands and revenues, lying mostly in Normandy, but many in England, to the prior and monks, by the name of the monastery of St. Michael de Periculo Maris.

There were both monks and nuns in the same house, and a nunnery was lately standing at the east end of the monastery, a little detached from the cells of the monks. A great deal of carved work in stone and timber, was to be seen here a few years ago, which shewed it was a most highly finished part of the house.

After the suppression of alien priories, it was given, in the first instance, by Henry VI. to King's College, Cambridge, and afterwards by king Edward IV. to Sion Abbey, in Middlesex. Its revenues, at the general suppression of monasteries, were estimated at 110l. 12s. 1d. per annum. It is uncertain when a religious house was first founded on this Mount; for there were monks here when Edward the Confessor founded his monastery, whom he obliged to conform to the rules of the Benedictines. These monks must have been settled here at least 500 years before his

his time, it being related that a holy virgin of the blood royal, named St. Kayne, who lived long before Edward, she being daughter to Braganus, prince of Brecknockshire, went in pilgrimage to St. Michael's Mount in Cornwall. Till king Richard the first's time, this Mount seems to have served for the purposes of religion only; but Henry de la Pomeroy of Bery Pomeroy castle, in Devonshire, having killed a serjeant at arms of the king's, who was sent to take him into custody, flew to this Mount, surprized it, expelled the monks and fortified the rocky sides of it.

John Vere, earl of Oxford, after the defeat of king Henry VI. at Barnet, came to this place by sea; and disguising himself, with some of his followers, in pilgrims habits, by that means got entrance, mastered the garrison, and seized the place, which he afterwards defended for a long time against the power of king Edward IV. but was at last obliged to surrender.

In the 13th year of king Henry VII. the lady Catharine Gordon, wife of Perkin Warbeck, fled hither for safety, but was soon taken prisoner, by the lord Doubney, and brought to the king.

In king Edward the VI's. time, during the Cornish commotions, this place was taken and plundered by the rebels.

In the late civil wars, king Charles I. confined the duke of Hamilton here, but being invested by the parliamentary forces it was taken and the duke released.

About 150 years ago, as some miners were digging at the bottom of the mountain for tin, they met with spear heads, axes and swords of brass, all wrapped up in linen.

Sir John St. Aubyn, baronet, has built at the foot of the mount, a noble and capacious pier or mole,



The East View of St. Michael's Mount in the County of Cornwall.

Vol. II. pa. 187.



mole, where a great number of ships, may be safely laid up, cleaned and refitted.

The building on the top of the mount, is formed with great propriety, it being well adapted to the shape of the hill on which it stands. The tower of the church is almost in the middle of the whole building, and rises from the center of the mountain's base; terminating the whole as a cone does a pyramid; the church, cells, and parapet walls, spread themselves round the tower, so as to cover the area or top of the hill; the hill-side enlarging itself gradually from the building downwards, till it comes near the sea, where it swells into a base of a mile in circumference, so that the most skilful architect could scarcely plan a structure which would better become the shape of this mountain.

The situation is very agreeable, the rocky precipices from the sides of the mountain being wonderfully grand, and make a most beautiful contrast, to that pleasant prospect of the fruitful fields and villages, which surround and enclose Mounts-bay, so called from this St. Michael's Mount, as standing near its center, and making the most remarkable figure of any part of the circuit.

About three miles N. E. of St. Michael's Mount, is a parish called St. Erth. A few years ago as a farmer, in this parish, was driving his oxen from the field, he perceived the foot of one of them to sink deeper than ordinary, and upon digging on the spot there was discovered a circular pit, two feet and a half wide, sunk perpendicularly 36 feet through a stoney ground, which must have required tools very different from those now in use. In the sides of the pit, holes were discovered at due distances, capable of admitting a foot, by which persons might ascend
and

and descend ; the bottom was concave like a bowl. It is supposed to have been intended for a well, and was filled with clay, which was every where moist. At the depth of 18 feet, was found a sacrificial vessel, called a Patera, made of tin, the natural product of the county, of very mean workmanship, without a handle, about the 20th part of an inch thick, four inches and a half wide at the rim, and two inches and half wide at the bottom, which was flat. On the bottom on the inside, was the following inscription, partly in Greek, and partly in Latin characters, very ill expressed ;

Livius modestus Douiuli filius Deo Marti.

In this patera, several things were remarkable ; it was distinguished by the name of the donor and his father, as well as the name of the deity to whom it was dedicated, and the inscription is thought to be the only one yet discovered in Britain, of which the language is Latin, and the characters partly Greek.

At the depth of 24 feet was found a jug, made also of tin, which held about four quarts and a pint ; it is a clumsy, ugly vessel, with one handle, a broad bottom, and a narrow neck ; it was called a *Præfericulum*, and was used to bring water or some other consecrated liquor to the altar ; it being carried before the priest in procession, in a kind of shallow basin, somewhat resembling our basin and ewer. At the same depth was also found another patera with two handles, some fragments of horns, burnt sticks, and pieces of leather. There were also found two stone weights of dove-coloured Cornish granite, one of fourteen pounds one ounce, avoirdupois ; and the other four pounds one ounce. A small mill-stone was also discovered, which by the smoothness of one side, seemed to have been much used ; it was
about

about 18 inches in diameter, and was such as is now used for hand-mills in the Island of Scilly.

Upon examining the spot, where this pit was discovered, it appeared to be the corner of a Roman fort, in length from north to south about 152 feet, and in breadth from east to west about 136; the ditch on the outside is easily traced, and of the walls there are sufficient remains, to shew that the work was rectilineal, with the angles rounded off.

By these remains of antiquity, it should appear that the Romans had penetrated into the westernmost parts of Cornwall, before the empire became Christian, and that they had here a fixed fort, and not a temporary, occasional fortification only. An account of these antiquities was published in the 51st. Vol. of the Philosophical Transactions.

Near PENROSE, a village on the eastern side of Mount's-bay, were found two small silver coins, which were in the possession of Mr. Borlase, while he was writing the antiquities of this county: one of which was of Trajan; on the reverse it had a female figure sitting, and on the exergue P. M. O. The second had on it a head covered with an helmet, and on the reverse were two horses, in full speed, side by side, as if drawing a chariot.

PENSANCE, is a considerable market town, within ten miles of the Land's End, in the road from Market-Jew, from which it is four miles distant; and is situated at the western extremity of Mount's-bay; and 288 miles S. W. of London. This is a place of considerable note; many of the Cornish gentry have houses here, and a great trade is carried on by the inhabitants, who are owners of several ships. The town consists of about 600 houses; the streets are paved, and there is
a chapel

a chapel of ease for the use of the towns-men; the parochial church of St. Paul, being distant from it near two miles to the south. This church, together with the town of Pensance, was in the year 1595, burnt by the Spaniards, who with four galleys surprized the country, and set the farms and villages near this coast on fire. Pensance is one of the coinage towns, and is governed by a mayor, a recorder, 12 aldermen, and 24 common-council men. It has a weekly market on Thursdays, and two annual fairs, namely, on the Thursday after Trinity Sunday, and on the Thursday before Advent Sunday, for cattle, &c.

In the parish of SANCRED, which is situated among the hills to the west of Pensance, was dug up an urn, of which we have given a cut. From the neatness of the lace work round, it appears to be Roman.



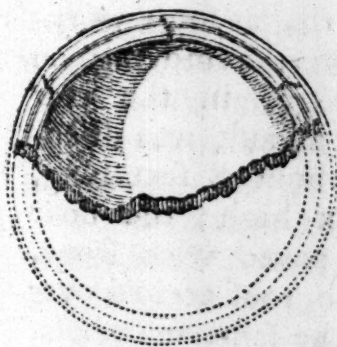
In the tenement of DRYFT, in this parish, is what is supposed an ancient sepulchral monument, consisting of two stones, one of them standing nine feet high out of the ground, and the other something more than seven feet; the distance from one to the other is eighteen feet, and the line they form, points north west.

At CAERBRAN in the same parish, at the distance of two miles to the north east of St. Burien, is a circular fortification, on the top of a high hill. It consists of a deep ditch, 15 wide, edged with stone, through which you pass to the outer vallum of earth, 15 feet high. Within this vallum is a large ditch, 15 yards wide, and beyond it a stone wall, which runs quite round the top of the hill, and seems to have been of considerable strength;

strength; though it now resembles a ridge of disorderly stones. The diameter of the whole is 90 paces, and in the center is a little circle. There are many others of this kind still to be seen, and some of them are walled round. These fortifications on the hills, in this county, are supposed to be Danish.

There is another of them, in the parish of Ludgvan, three miles east south east of Pensance, which is called CASTLE ANDIRAS, and consisted of two stone walls, built one within the other, in a circular form, surrounding the area of the hill. The ruins are now fallen on each side, and the walls were once much more lofty than they are at present. Within the walls are many small enclosures of a circular form, about seven yards in diameter, which seem to have been huts erected for the garrison. The diameter of the whole fort, from east to west is 400 feet.

In an old hedge, in this parish, was found a vase of fine moor stone, turned and polished, a fragment of it is represented in a cut here-under annexed.



This vase or bowl, was undoubtedly a Roman sacrificial patera, such as was used to receive the blood of the victim, and convey it as an offering to the altar. The proportions of this vessel were very well preserved; and the elegance and the harmony of measurement to be observed

in it leave no doubt of its being Roman.

In the tenement of BODINAR, in the same parish, is a singular monument called the Crellas. This consists of two low walls, the outermost of which forms two circles; one of these is only eighteen

eighteen feet in diameter ; but the other is 55 feet, by 50 ; and incloses within it another circular wall, 41 feet from north to south, and 36 from east to west. Between each wall of the great enclosure is a ditch four feet wide ; the larger circle has two entrances ; but the lesser has but one, they have all lofty stones on each side.

In the tenement of KERRIS, or KIRTHIES, in the parish of St. Paul, lying on the west side of Mount's-bay, and to the south of Pensance, is an oval inclosure about 52 paces from north to south, and 34 the the contrary way. At the south end are four rude pillars about 8 feet high, and at the foot of them lie some large long stones, which appear to have formerly rested on these pillars. This was probably a place of worship, and the erect stones were designed to distinguish and dignify the entrance. The circle, we are describing, is at present called the *Roundago*, which name it may possibly have acquired from the superstitious rounds used in the worship of the Druids.

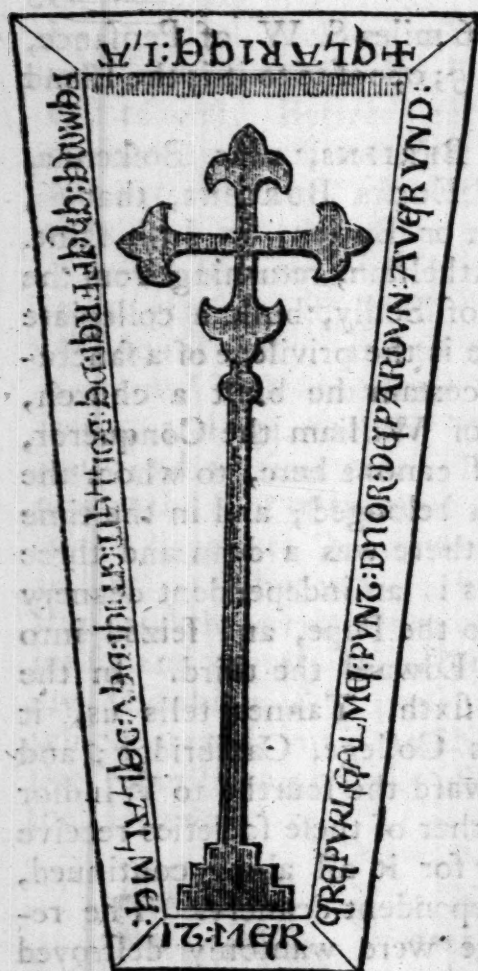


Near the mansion house at Kerris, as some workmen were removing an old hedge, in the year 1723, a vault was discovered about 8 feet long, and six high ; the floor being paved with stone, and the roof arched over with the same materials. Within this vault was found a plain urn, made of the finest red clay, and full of earth. The form of this urn may be seen by the annexed cut.

BOSKENNA,

BOSKENNA, about 6 miles S. W. of Pensance, has one fair on March 5; opposite to it is the Island of Boscawen.

ST. BURIEN, or BERIENS, near Boskenna, was anciently called EGLIS BURIENS, that is, the church of Berien or Burien, an Irish saint. It is said that king Athelstan, returning from the conquest of the Isles of Scilly, built a collegiate church here, and gave it the privilege of a sanctuary; however it is certain he built a church, and that in the time of William the Conqueror, there was a college of canons here, to whom the neighbouring grounds belonged; and in the time of Edward the first, there was a dean and three prebends. St. Buriens is an independent deanery formerly belonging to the Pope, and seized into the king's hands by Edward the third. In the 24th of Henry the sixth, Tanner tells us, it was given to King's College, Cambridge; and in the seventh of Edward the fourth, to Windsor College; yet did neither of these societies receive any benefit from it, for it all along continued, as it still is, an independent deanery. The remains of the college were wantonly destroyed during the civil wars, by one Shrubfall, governor of Pendennis castle. It contains within its jurisdiction the parishes of St. Burien, Senar and St. Leven, and being held in commendam by the bishops of Exeter, all spiritual jurisdiction is entirely in them, no appeal lying but to the king only. The rectory of St. Burien is of considerable value, and the bishops of Exeter, as deans, being patrons, appoint a curate. The revenues of the college, were at the suppression valued at only 48l. 12s. 1d. per annum. Upon a tomb, in the church, is a remarkable cross, with an inscription round it in old French, as represented in the next page.



The inscription signifies, *Clarice the Wife of Geffrei de Bolleit, lies here, God of her soul have mercy. They who shall pray for her soul shall have ten days of pardon.* As there is a place in the parish called Bol-lait, the inscription doubtless refers to it.

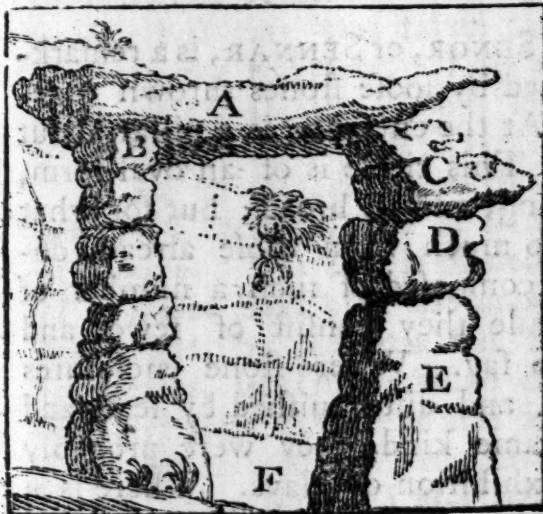
Near St. Burien, is a flat stone about six inches thick, two feet wide, and five feet high; about fifteen inches below the top, it has a hole six inches in diameter quite through. In the adjoining hedge is

another with the like hole; and in a wall of the village a third. These circumstances, and some large stones, standing in these fields, render it probable, that there have been several circles of erect stones, besides that which is now entire. Borlase thinks, that the holed stones were for tying their victims, while the priests were going through their preparatory ceremonies, and making supplications to the gods to accept the ensuing sacrifice.

In the parish of St. Burien, and at the end of a little enclosure, is a cave called Fogou, which has an entrance about four feet high, and as many

ny broad. It goes directly forward, and is nearly of the same width as at the entrance; seven feet high, and thirty-six from the mouth to the end. About five feet from the entrance there is a hole on the left hand, two feet wide, and one foot six inches high, and in it is a vault four feet wide, and four feet six inches high. It proceeds east about thirteen feet, and then to the south about five feet more. The sides and ends are faced with stone, and the roof covered with large flat stones. At the end, fronting the entrance, there is another square hole, within which is also another vault, now stopped up with stone; however, the light may still be seen through it.

In KARN BOSCAWEN, in the parish of St. Buri-
en, is a monument of the pensile kind, which



consists of one large flat stone marked A in the cut, one end of which rests upon the natural rock B; the other end on three large stones, C, D, E, placed one above the other in order to raise a proper support for the incumbent weight. Between the upper stone and its supporters, is an opening seven feet wide at top, but terminating in a point at the bottom F. This monument bears all the appearance of being the work of art, and was not improbably, on important occasions, the seat of some chief priests among the Druids, from whence he might issue his predictions, edicts and

and decisions. Indeed the mind can scarcely form a scene more proper for this; the whole having a striking and awful effect from its consisting of vast rocks on either side, above and below, fronting an immense ocean.

CARENTOC, is a little village, the parish church of which is now converted to a chapel, annexed to Padstow, near which town it is situated. In the time of Edward the Confessor, there was at this place a collegiate church, dedicated to St. Carentoc, who is said to have been a disciple of St. Patrick. Speed mentions its annual value at the dissolution, to have been 89l. 15s. 8d. The inhabitants have a tradition, that this was once a large town; which is not improbable, as there belonged to the church a dean, and nine prebendaries.

In the parish of SENOR, or SENNAR, is a remarkable circle, formed by loose stones thrown together in a ridge. At the entrance is a pillar about two yards high. This circle is of an oval form, about 26 yards long, and 10 broad; but for what reason it differs so much from those already described, in being composed of such a number of small stones, while they consist of fewer and larger, is hard to say. Where stone enclosures are semi-circular, and distinguished by seats and benches of the same kind, they were probably designed for the exhibition of plays. There is a theatre of this kind in the Isle of Anglesea, called Bryngwin, which has already in its proper place been described.

About half a mile to the east of Senor, is a large handsome Cromlêh, on the top of a high hill; the area enclosed by the supporters, is of the same dimensions as that at Molfra, hereafter described, and this being a curious monument we have given a cut of it.

The



The Kistvaen, or area, marked out by side stones, is neatly formed and fenced every way, the supporter being 8 feet 10 inches high, from the surface of the ground within, to the under face of the quoit. To the east is a little cell: Round this Cromlêh is a stone barrow, 14 yards in diameter, reaching almost to the edge of the quoit; but care was taken that no stone should get into the Kistvaen. This quoit was brought from a Karn about a furlong distance, near which is another Cromlêh not so large.

In the neighbouring parish of Madern, there are two Cromlêhs, one at *Molfra*, and the other at *Lanyon*. The first is placed exactly on the top of a round bald hill, the upper flat stone is nine feet eight, by fourteen feet three inches. The supporters, which are three in number, are five feet high, and inclose an area six feet eight inches, from east to west, and four feet wide; so that the length bears due east and west; but is open to the south, a stone which was there, being probably removed, or broken to pieces. This covering stone or quoit, as it is called in Cornwall, was evidently brought from a ledge of rocks, about a furlong to the north west. The stone barrow, with which this Cromlêh is surrounded, is not two feet high from the general surface; but is 37 feet three inches in diameter. The covering

stone is fallen from its original situation, as may be seen in the cut annexed.



Mr. Borlase searched, by digging, the enclosed area, but found nothing from which any probable conjectures might be formed, except that the earth seemed evidently to have been moved, and that by the appearance of some black greasy earth, it appeared that something which either was originally, or has since turned black, was placed at the bottom of the pit.

The Cromlêh at *Lanyon*, differs much from that at *Molfra*. The area described by the supporter of the quoit is seven feet, and it stands north and south. There is no *Kistvaen* here, that is, no area marked out by side stones. The quoit is more than 47 feet in girt, and 19 feet long; its thickness in the middle, on the eastern edge, is sixteen inches, at each end not so much, but at the western edge it is two feet thick.



The two chief supporters, which are marked A and B in the cut, do not stand at right angles with the front line, as in other Cromlêhs, but obliquely, they being probably forced from their original position by the weight of this quoit, which is so high, that a man on horseback can stand under it. This Cromlêh is placed on a low bank of earth, not two feet higher than the adjacent soil. It is about 20 feet wide, and 70 long, running north and south; at

at the south end are many rough stones, some pitched on end in no order, yet evidently put there by design; at the distance of about 80 yards W. N. W. there is also a high stone. On digging under this quoit, a pit in the shape of a grave six feet deep was discovered, and it is not improbable, that the whole bank was a burying-place for more than one person.

In the tenement of *Lanyon*, are also three erect stones on a triangular place: one of them is thin, flat, and fixed in the ground on its edge; it has a hole in the middle above two feet in diameter, whence it is called *Men antol*, that is, the holed stone. On each side is a rude pillar about four feet high; one of them has a long stone lying without it like a cushion or pillow, as if it was to kneel upon. This monument was certainly designed for some religious use; but the ignorant people in its neighbourhood, even at this day, creep through the holed stone, as a cure for pains in the back and limbs; they also draw their young children through it, as a cure for the rickets; and it likewise serves as an oracle to inform them in affairs of love or fortune.

In a croft, about half a mile to the north west of *Lanyon*, is a stone, called by the Cornish *Men Skryfa*; that is, the inscribed stone. It is nine feet ten inches long, one foot eight inches broad, and one foot seven inches thick. It stood upright, and the inscription begins at the top, as most ancient Cornish inscriptions do; and is to be read downwards. The inscription is *RIALOBRA* *CUNOVAL FIL.* signifying that *Rialobran*, the son of *Cunoval*, was interred there. As to its age nothing certain can be said; but it is probably one of the oldest monuments in Cornwall. It is disputed by antiquaries, whether this *Rialobran* was a Christian or a heathen; there being neither a cross on it,

nor the letters D. M. for Diis Manibus. Another monument of this sort is to be met with in the tenement of *Trewren*, in Madern parish, where the distance from stone to stone was ten feet, and the line they formed, pointed E. N. E. Upon searching the ground, between the two stones, in the year 1752, a pit six feet six inches long was presently found; this pit was two feet nine inches wide, and four feet six inches deep; near the bottom it was full of black greasy earth, but no bones were to be found. The grave came close to the westernmost and largest stone, where probably lay the head of the person interred.

In the neighbouring parish of ST. LEVIN, is a promontory called Castle Treryn, which consists of three distinct groups of rocks. On the western side of the middle group near the top lies a very large stone, so evenly poised, that any person with his hands may move it to and fro; but the extremities of its base are at such a distance from each other, and so well secured by the nearness to the stone, that it is morally impossible, that any force to remove it from its present situation; besides, it is at so great a height from the ground, that no man can conceive it to have been lifted into the place it now occupies.

We are now come to the Land's End, the most western promontory of Cornwall, and of the whole island. Near it are several monuments of the ancient Druids, particularly one situated in the tenement of BOSCAWEN-UUN, which consists of nineteen large stones, placed in a circle, about twelve feet distant one from the other, with one much larger in the middle, and standing higher than the rest. These circular monuments are esteemed the most ancient of any to be found in this island, and are of various kinds. The number of stones is from twelve to seventy-seven; but we find
them

them oftener of the number twelve than of any other; and Borlase thinks they were erected in honour of the twelve superior deities; or some national custom of twelve persons of authority, meeting there in council upon important affairs; or perhaps they represent the twelve months of the year, and the seven days of the week, the priests being the only chronologers and registers of time. The distance of these stones, one from the other, is various in different circles, but was probably the same, or nearly so at first in one and the same circle, so that by the distance of those remaining, may in a great measure be determined, the number of stones of which the circle formerly consisted. These circles were not indiscriminately erected in all places, or without consulting the most venerable and learned of the Druids, particularly if religion, or the election of a prince was upon the carpet; but if a victory was gained, the field of battle was the place where the trophy was to be erected.

The figure of these monuments is either simple or compounded; those that are simple are exact circles; but their construction is not always the same; for some have their circumference marked only with large separate stones, whilst others have ridges of small stones intermixed, sometimes with walls and seats, that serve to render the enclosure more complete. Other circular monuments are more complex; for they consist not only of a circle, but of other distinguishing properties. In or near the centre of some stands a stone taller than the rest, as in that of Boscawen Uun; in others there is a Kistvaen, that is, a sepulchral chest, or cavity made of stone.

A Cromlêh, or monument consisting of a large stone supported by others, is in the centre of many of these circles, and not a few are distin-

guished by a remarkable piece of a rock. These circles are frequently near each other, sometimes contiguous, and we now and then see one of them included in, or intersected by another. Urns are not unfrequently found within or near them, and here and there one is curiously erected on geometrical plans, with the principal entrances facing the cardinal points, sometimes with avenues leading to them, placed exactly north and south, with detached stones lying to the east and west, or in a triangular form. These monuments are found in many foreign countries, as well as in all the isles dependant on Britain, and in many parts of Britain itself. These circles in different places are called by various names; in Cornwall they are termed Downs-men, that is, the Stone Dance; because they seem to form an area for dancing.

It is, however, highly probable, that some of these monuments were erected upon a religious account, and were designed originally for the rites of worship. We may observe in the writings of the Old Testament, that several stone monuments were erected as places of devotion; and in the eastern parts of the world, the places consecrated to religion were generally open, and often on the tops of rocks and mountains. This custom may be perfectly reconciled to such monuments of the circular kind, as were appropriated to sacred use by the Druids; for they, like other heathen priests, were of opinion that the gods were not to be confined within walls; which opinion was undoubtedly a fundamental tenet of the Celtic religion; from which there is no reason to think that the Druids ever departed. Besides, the multitude and nature of the sacrifices required such fires as could not admit of a roof or covering.

These

These temples are of various sizes, for some are only of twelve feet diameter, being perhaps designed for family use ; but the larger sorts were for public sacrifices, and festival solemnities. Or they might be of various sizes, on account of the different superstitions therein performed, or the several ranks and classes of the Druids.

Near the southermost point of the Land's End is a promontory called CASTLE-TRERYN, which consist of three distinct piles of rocks. On the west side of the middle pile, near the top, lies a logan or moving stone of a prodigious size, so evenly poised that a child may rock it, and yet the extremities of its base are at such a distance from each other, and so well secured, that it seems impossible for any human force, assisted by all the mechanical powers, to remove it from its present situation. In this county are several other of these rocking stones, some of which have several basons which receive the rain water, with channels that convey it from one to another, and into one principal receptacle. We cannot in this place help hazarding a conjecture, on the use of these basons on the top of the logan stones. The Druids might make the facility or difficulty of moving them subservient to many purposes. They might sometimes serve to try the innocence of suspected criminals, or be oracles to foretel future events. If the Druid chose that the logan should be easily moved he used no art ; but if on the contrary, it was his intention that no small degree of strength should stir it, he had only to fill one of the basons at the extremity with water, or rather to stop the opening at which it discharged itself, and permit it to remain filled with rain or snow water ; when this was effected, his purpose would be completely answered ; for the center of gravity being thus removed to a considerable distance
from

from the point where it was when the bason was empty, it must necessarily follow, that the difficulty of moving it would be greatly increased, and in some cases, perhaps, no human force, unless assisted by engines, could do it.

In the village of MEN, near the Land's End, a farmer, in the year 1716, removing a flat stone seven feet long, and six wide, discovered underneath it a cavity formed by a stone, two feet long at each end, and on each side another stone twice as long. In the middle was an urn full of black earth, and round it some very large human bones irregularly dispersed. In some sepulchres have been found bones much larger than those of the human body, which are therefore thought by the vulgar to have belonged to the giants; but they are more probably the bones of horses, which, as well as the arms of soldiers, were frequently thrown into the funeral pile, both being thought necessary in the next life.

When the bones were deposited in the urn, earth was sometimes laid over them, which accounts for roots of grass, being now and then found mixed with them. In other urns the bones appear to have been cemented by a strong mortar, in order to their being better preserved, by keeping them from the air and moisture; but the most ancient, as well as effectual way, was to cover the bones with the fat of beasts, the more pure part of which the bones, when hot from the embers, could not fail strongly to imbibe, becoming thereby better guarded from external injury, than by any method then known.

Besides human bones, it was usual among the politer nations to inclose in the same urn, lachrymatories or small phials, filled with purchased tears, and other utensils of mourning which attended the funeral. With the remains of matrons, there

there have been sometimes found combs; inlaid boxes, nippers, jewels or bracelets; for instance, there was a beautiful bracelet of gold, very thin, but three inches broad, found in a brown earthen urn under a stone barrow in Ireland, which by the size appears to have belonged to a lady. In some there have been found little images in agate, amber or crystal, and in others coins. The helmet, sword or spear, were usually thrown into the funeral pile of a soldier; but if the body was not burnt, the sword is for the most part found entire, and placed under his head. If the body was burnt, the warlike instruments were most probably melted by the heat and violence of the fire, or broke by the fall of the pile, or perhaps, rather purposely broke in honour of the deceased, which may be one reason why we scarcely ever find any of those weapons whole in sepulchres, where the bodies have been burnt.

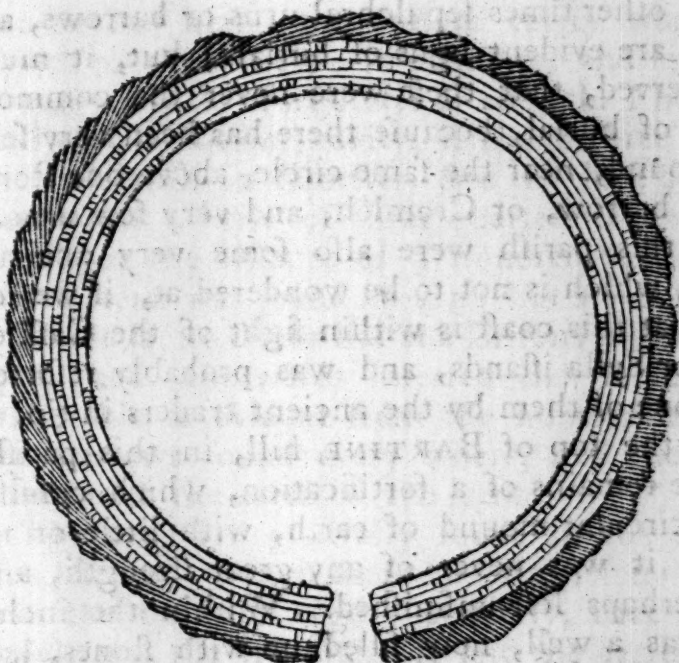
Several bits of brass were found in the sepulchre at Men above-mentioned, and particularly the point of a brass sword. When pieces of brass half melted have been discovered in urns, it amounts almost to a proof, that the remains of some person of quality have been there deposited; for, to the honour of such only, were large piles erected, which could in burning, by the intense heat of the fire, melt brass. Where bones have been found only in part consumed, and where yet there are evidences of a soldier having been interred; for example, the pieces of a sword and brass found at Trelo Warren and Men, we may reasonably conclude that such funeral was performed in the hurry of war, when time was wanted to superintend the burning.

Near Lands End, a road extends to the north, where is the village of St. Just, in which parish Ralph Williams, yeoman, removing a barrow,
a great

a great number of urns was discovered; and near the centre was a square chest or cell, paved under foot, in which an urn was also found, finely carved and full of human bones. It is supposed there were about 50 urns round the stone chest, the above-mentioned alone being preserved on account of its elegance, the rest were thrown away and broken as of no consequence. Most of the urns, when they are discovered, stand erect on their bottom, and are covered with a flat stone or tile; but they are also sometimes themselves a covering to what they contain, having their mouths placed downwards.

Near the church of St. Just, is one of the ancient theatres, in which, it is said, the Britons used to hear plays acted, and to see the sports and games, with which, upon particular occasions, the people were amused. There are a great number of them in Cornwall, where they are called Plan-an-guare, that is, the plain for sport and pastime. The benches are generally of turf; but those of St. Just, which is the most remarkable monument of this kind, are of stone. It was an exact circle, 126 feet in diameter, and the perpendicular height of the bank, from the area within, is now 7 feet; but the height from the bottom of the ditch without is at present 10 feet, though it was formerly more. The seats consist of six steps, 14 inches wide, and one foot high; that on the top of all, where the rampart is, is about 7 feet wide. But, in order to convey a more perfect idea of it to our readers, we have inserted

inserted a cut of it.



The plays acted latterly in these amphitheatres, were in the Cornish language, and the subjects were taken from scripture history. In the same cirques were also performed those sorts of exercises for which the Cornish Britons are still so remarkable; and, indeed, if any single combat was to be fought on foot, to decide any competition of strength or valour; any disputed property, or accusation exhibited by martial challenge, no place was so proper as one of these enclosed circles; but in case of sudden challenges, where the champions were to fight it out upon the spot, the area was marked out with such stones as were at hand. If either combatant was by any accident forced out of the circle, he was to lose his cause, and pay three marks of pure silver to save his life. The circles, whether opened or enclosed, were often designed for sepulchres; for in, or adjoining

ing to the edge of these circular monuments, stone chests have been found, sometimes Cromlêhs, and at other times sepulchral urns or barrows, all which are evident signs of burials; but, it must be observed, that these were never the common places of burial, because there has been very seldom found, near the same circle, above one stone chest, barrow, or Cromlêh, and very few urns.

In this parish were also some very ancient mines, which is not to be wondered at, if we reflect that this coast is within sight of the Cassiterides or Sylla islands, and was probably resorted to as one of them by the ancient traders in tin.

On the top of BARTINE hill, in this parish, are the remains of a fortification, which consists of a circular mound of earth, with little or no ditch; it was never of any great strength, and was perhaps left unfinished. Within the inclosure was a well, now filled up with stones, and in the centre are three small circles, edged with upright stones.

In the tenement of Lefwyn, which is likewise in the parish of St. Just, were discovered, a few years ago, two pateræ, of one of which the following is a representation. This is of stone,



turned and ornamented; within it are several hollow lists or drills. This vessel is entire, and was of that kind, from which the priest poured libations of wine, either upon the altar, or between the horns of the victim.

The substance of it is a moor stone, approaching to the nature of talc. The other patera,

tera, found at the same time and place, is made of the same stone. It wants an eighth of being two inches high; the bottom cavity wants an eighth of three inches in diameter, and in depth it wants a little of a quarter of an inch. The outer drill of the bottom cavity, is about three inches and an eighth in diameter, and the base at bottom wants a little of three quarters of an inch. At about the distance of a hundred yards from these pateræ was found an urn; but it was broke.

There is no doubt but the Britons burnt their dead, and afterwards interred the remains in urns; this is evident from the number of urns and barrows found every where, and the ashes mixed with the earth of the latter.

The urns are generally found in the middle of a barrow, though there have been some found near the outward edges; probably, that in the middle was the first interred, and the barrow was erected to inclose it, the others afterwards deposited, being the remains of some relation or near friend, who chose to be buried in the same barrow. Sometimes not only one, but two or more urns were deposited round the central sepulchre; and, at other times, a whole family chose to be buried under the same barrow, when we find many urns placed close one to another. The most remarkable monument of this latter kind in Cornwall, was that just described.

From St. Just the road extends about three miles to PENDEEN VAU, which is famous for its artificial cave, and this being the most entire of any in the county, we have given an elevation, section and plan of it.

This

A DESCRIPTION of

FIG. I.

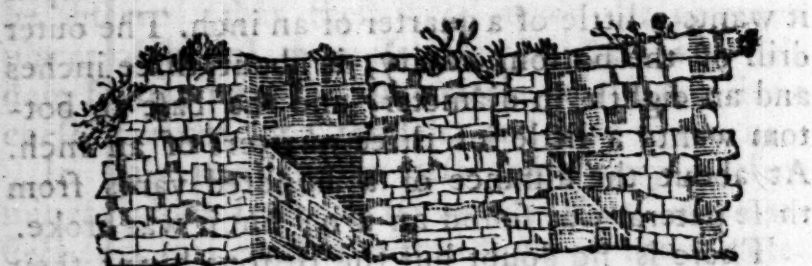
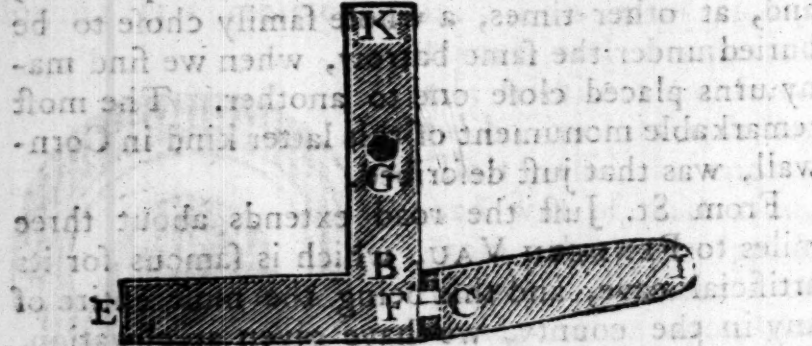


FIG. II.



FIG. III.

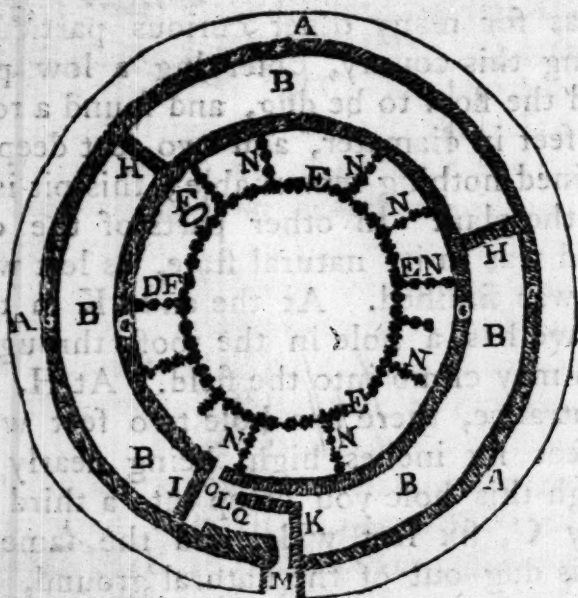


This cave consists of three parts, or galleries; the entrance is four feet six inches high, and the same width, being walled on each side with large stones, and having a rude arch on the top. From the entrance you descend six steps, and advance to the N. N. E. the floor dipping all the way as in the section, fig. 2. The sides, built of stone, draw nearer together as they rise, the better to receive the flat stones D, D, D, which form the covering, and are full six feet from the floor; this first cave is 28 feet long from E to F. Before you come to F, see the plan, fig. 3. the second cave B turns off to the left hand at right angles, being formed in the same manner as the first, except that the roof is six feet two inches high. In the middle of this second cave, Mr. Borlase, to whom we are indebted for this account, as well as for many other curious particulars respecting this county, observing a low place, he caused the floor to be dug, and found a round pit, three feet in diameter, and two feet deep, but it contained nothing remarkable; this pit is marked G in the plan. In other parts of the cave the ground was in its natural state, as left when the work was finished. At the end, K in the plan, this cave has a hole in the roof, through which a man may climb into the field. At H, fronting the entrance, there is a hole two feet wide, and two feet six inches high, being nearly square: through this hole you creep into a third cave or gallery C, six feet wide, and the same height. This is dug out of the natural ground, the sides being regular and straight, and the roof a semi-circle, but neither one nor the other faced with stone. Its length is 26 feet six inches, and it ends in a semi-circle at I.

The

The country people relate many idle stories relative to these caves, taking no notice of the structure of them, which is really commodious and well executed. This, and the other caves of the like kind in Cornwall, were probably formed as places of security in times of imminent danger, in which they concealed their women, children, and most valuable effects; their coasts being continually infested by the Saxon and Danish pirates.

Two miles to the eastward of Pendeen vau, is MORVA, which has in its parish several remarkable antiquities; particularly the remains of an ancient structure called Castle Chûn, of which we have given a plan, in order to its description being better understood.



The entrance of this castle faces the W. S. W. where having passed the ditch A, you enter the outmost wall G, which is five feet thick at M, called the iron gateway; leaving on the left hand
a wall

a wall 12 feet thick, which on the right traverses the principal ditch BB, which is 30 feet wide, till it comes within three feet of the principal wall C, when it turns off parallel to it to L, leaving a narrow passage. The entrance Q admits you by the passage O, into several lodgments, formed by a circular line of stonework EEE, about three feet high. The partitions NNN, spring as it were from the centre of the whole work, and are 30 feet wide. The area within these works is 125 feet from East to West, and 110 from North to South. The principal ditch B has four traverses; K and I secure the entrance, and HH divide the remainder into three nearly equal parts. At F is a well with steps to go down to the water. Mr. Borlaise, to whom we are indebted for this account, judges, from the ruins, that the outer wall must have been at least 10 feet high, and the inner wall about 15.

About 500 yards to the S. W. of Chûn Castle, stands a Cromlêh, the covering stone of which is 12 feet six inches long, and 11 wide, and is supported by three stones pitched on their edges, which, with a fourth, form a pretty regular kistvaen, or stone chest.

From Morva the road extends ten miles eastward to ST. IVES, which lies 15 miles East of St. Just, and 278 W. by S. of London. It was originally called ST. IIES, from Iia, an Irish female saint, who is said to have lived a religious life at this place. It is situated on a harbour in St. George's Channel, called St. Ives Bay; which is now almost choaked up with sand; for the north westerly winds have raised such sand banks at the mouth of the harbour, that a bar is formed, over which vessels of 80 tons burthen can only pass at high spring tides. St. Ives is a neat small town,

town, but has a large and handsome church, though it is only a chapel to Unilalant, and stands so near the sea, that the waves often break against it. The town was incorporated by King Charles I. and is governed by a mayor, recorder, and 12 capital burgessees, with 24 inferior burgessees, and a town clerk; of whom the mayor, while in his office, and a year after, as well as the recorder and senior burgessees, are always justices of the peace. The members of parliament are elected by the corporation, and the inhabitants that pay scot and lot, who amount in all to 180. It has a free-school, founded by King Charles I. of which the Bishop of Exeter, with the mayor and burgessees are governors. It has two markets, which are held on Wednesdays and Fridays, and a fair on the Saturday before Advent Sunday, for oxen, sheep, horses, and a few hops. The pilchard fishery is considerable here; and they carry on some trade in iron, Bristol wares, Cornish slates, and Welsh coal, particularly the last, for which there is a great demand, insomuch that there have been often seen above one thousand horses at one time ready to carry away the coals. In the parish of Unilalant, of which this town makes a part, the vicar is entitled to a mortuary on deaths, that is, whoever dies worth 10 l. or more, must pay him 10 s. but they who die worth less pay nothing, and the richest no more. The manor anciently belonged to the Ferrers family, whence it came by marriage to the Champernoons; and from them in the same manner to Sir Robert Wilmoughby, Baron de Broke, whose coheiresses marrying Blunt Lord Mountjoy and Mr. Powlett, ancestor to the present duke of Bolton, it came on a division of the estate to this latter, and still continues in the family, the Duke of Bolton being

ing lord of it. This borough first sent representatives to parliament in the reign of Queen Mary. The land from hence to Mountsbay in the British Channel, is not above four miles over, and from the top of the hill the islands of Scilly may be plainly and distinctly seen, though they are above 30 miles distant. At the entrance of St. Ives Bay, lies the small island of Godrevy or Gudreny.

At BOTALLECK, about ten miles West of St. Ives, is a curious cluster of circles, which include and intersect each other; for this reason, Borlase imagines, they had some mystical meaning, or, were at least, designed for particular uses. For instance, some might be employed for sacrifice, others for prayer, for feasting the priests, or for the station of those who devoted the victims. Whilst one Druid was preparing the victim in one place, another might be adoring in a second, and a third be going his rounds at the extremity of another circle of stones, the rest being busy in the rites of augury, so that all might proceed in their worship at one and the same time, under the inspection of the high priest. We may observe, farther, that most of these circular monuments are detached stones, placed so orderly, that there can be no doubt of their having some share in the superstitious rites; for, where-ever altars are found, we may safely conclude, the circles containing them, were designed for places of sacrifice and worship.

The road now turns southward, passing within a mile of LELANT or LALANT, a small village, about three miles S. E. of St. Ives, and situated on the Bay of that name. It has one fair on August 15, for cattle.

After passing the extremity of St. Ives Bay, the road is divided, one running northward to Gwethian,

thian, and the other extending east to Redruth, GWITHIAN, though an inconsiderable village, seated on a small river, near the mouth of the Bay, has produced several remarkable antiquities. In May 1741, the sea having washed away a piece of the cliff, about half a mile to the S. W. of the town, there was discovered, three feet under the surface of the earth, a small cavity, about 20 inches wide, and as much high, faced and covered with stone; the bottom consisted of one flat stone, and upon it stood an urn, of which we have annexed a cut. It was full of human



bones, the vertebræ being very distinct. Round the urn was found a small quantity of dust or earth, which had all the appearance of human ashes, and filled the lower part of the cavity, about four inches from the bottom. It was the general custom amongst the ancients, to repeat the burning of the bones, till they were so far reduced in size as to be all enclosed in an urn, but this was not always the case, as the boxes found in the middle of the barrow at Tre-lowarren testify. Sometimes they enclosed what was well burnt in an urn, and what was not so in a cell round it.

The other road passes by CAMBRON, which is about six miles to the S. E. of Gwithian, and five to the east of Redruth. The living of Cambron is worth near 400 l. per annum, and is in lay hands. There are three annual fairs kept here,

here, namely, on Feb. 24, June 29, and Nov. 11, for oxen, sheep, cloth and hops.

REDRUTH, which lies about five miles to the eastward of the last-mentioned town, and 273 from London, is seated in the midst of the mines, and is rendered populous by the resort of the tinners. It has three fairs held on the second of May, the 5th of September, and the first of October, for horses, oxen, sheep and cloth.

At KARNBRE-Hill, near this town, and in the parish of Illogan, were dug up, in June 1749, a considerable number of gold coins, some of which were worn very smooth, not by lying in the earth, but by use, they having no alloy to harden them. No letters were discoverable on any of them; some were flat, and others convex on one side, and concave on the other; the largest weighed no more than four pennyweights fourteen grains. From the reverse of these coins, having generally the impression of a horse, some have imagined they were Phenician, some colonies of that people having chosen a horse for their symbol. This opinion seems confirmed by the place where they are found, the Phenicians having for many years, from their superior skill in navigation, engrossed the tin of Cornwall to themselves: but others alledge that these coins are too rude, and the designs too mean to have been Phenician, Grecian, or Roman; and that they are originally British, some of their coins having been found stamped with the figure of a horse, and inscribed with British names. Some have doubted, whether the Britons had gold and silver in their own country or not; but we are now very certain they had: Cornwall produced both these metals even in Camden's time; Borlase also saw some gold among grains of tin in the parish of Creed in the

year 1753; and not only gold, but native silver was found in a mine in the parish of St. Oust. That they coined money in their own mint, is plain from an edict of the Roman emperors, forbidding the use of any money in Britain, but what was stamped with their image.

However, many Roman coins have from time to time been found in the same hill, some of which were in the possession of Mr. Borlase; among these is an Antoninus of a large size, of the ancient lead, with a triumphal arch on the reverse: coins of this metal are very rare: there was also a Severus Alexander. And in 1749, at the foot of Karnbrê hill, were found a pint of copper Roman coins, about three feet under the surface, with the head of an animal in brass, a hinge, and pierced cover.

In the year 1744, several hollow brass instruments of various sizes, together with some Roman coins, were also dug up in the side of Karnbrê hill. These instruments are generally called Celts, and being on this occasion found accompanying some Roman coins, many might be tempted to imagine them of Roman original; but as very few of them have as yet been found in Italy, this conjecture cannot be well admitted. That the reader may have a more comprehensive idea of their nature, we have annexed cuts of two of those found in Cornwall.

That



Fig. 1.



Fig. 2.

That represented by fig. 1. is about six inches long, and a quarter of an inch broad, just under the ring or loop at DE, and in the sharp part twice as broad; fig. 2. is not quite so large. Great numbers of Celts of this form have been found, not only in various parts of England, but in Scotland and Wales, and in some places so many together, particularly at Earsley Moor, twelve miles N. W. of York, with several lumps of metal, and a quantity of cinders, whence it may be conjectured, that at such places there were forges for making them. Various have been the opinion of the learned, respecting the use to which these instruments were applied, some having imagined, they were intended to be used as chizels to cut stone, some that they were for engraving letters and inscriptions, and others again, that they were the *Falz*, with which the Druids cut the sacred mistletoe. However, none of these conjectures are founded on probability, as Mr. Borlase has fully proved in his antiquities of this county. It indeed appears most probable that they were the heads of spears, peculiar to the Gauls, Britons and Germans, and that these nations continued to use such weapons after they were subjected to the Ro-

mans; this accounts for there being so few of them found in Italy, and so many in Britain and Gaul. The loops B might serve for several uses, a kind of trophy or a tassel might be, by way of ornament, appendant to it, or possibly a string to make the spear more commodious in carriage, like the slings of our muskets, or to recover the weapon after it had been lanced on an enemy. Mr. Borlase, in his conjecture respecting their use, has probability entirely on his side, when he says, that the larger and heavier seem to have been the heads of spears, the middle sort for javelins, and the lighter and smaller for the heads or arming of arrows.

Karnbrê-hill was on many accounts remarkable; Mr. Borlase is of opinion, that it was a place particularly appropriated to the mysteries of Druidism; for here were their consecrated circles, here their seats of judgment, here their cromlehs, altars, rock-basins and sacred mounds.

The top of this hill is thick set with karns or groups of rocks; the spaces between and below were, in the memory of the last generation, filled with a grove of oaks, since felled. On a karn, at the western end, are artificial basins, cut in the highest rocks. In advancing towards the east, Mr. Borlase saw a curious orbicular flat stone, which had been wantonly thrown down from the top of an immense rock; on the surface of this stone was an exact circular basin, three feet in diameter, and one foot deep, having round its edges many small basins communicating with it.

Having attained the summit of the hill, our learned and curious author crossed the ruins of a stone wall, which enclosed an area of about an acre of ground. The enclosure is called the Old Castle,

Castle, and appears to have been a fortification, taken out of the holy ground.

We must now proceed to give a description of the castle, which is the most modern thing to be met with here, and does not stand on the highest part of the hill, but about three hundred yards to the east of it. The building stands on a very irregular ledge of vast rocks, some of the surfaces of which are high, others low, consequently the lower floors must be of unequal height. The rocks not being contiguous, the architect has contrived arches to supply the vacancy and support the wall; the ledge of rocks was narrow, of course the rooms could neither be large nor handsome. The walls have in one of the turrets three stories of windows, and there are every where small holes, for viewing an enemy, and discharging the arrows, some of which were perhaps added in more modern times for muskets. At the N. W. end were the outworks, now demolished, but its greatest security was its being situated amidst such horrid rocks. In short, from the military remains on this hill, the British gold coins, the Roman coins, weapons of war, and other things, probably Roman, found here, as well as from the religious monuments above noticed, it should seem that it had been for many ages a place of great resort in times both of war and peace.

From Redruth, a road extends to ST. AGNES, in which parish is a vast intrenchment, which shews great skill and labour, being probably intended as a defence of St. Agnes Beacon, and the rich cluster of mines in its neighbourhood. Within this intrenchment has been plowed up a gold Valentinian, which had the following legend, DN. VAENINIANVS F. P. AVG. and on the reverse, RESTITUTOR REIPUBLICÆ

ANT. A. This added to the greatness of the undertaking, the judgment and conduct of the design, the straightness of the lines, and the uniformity of the work in all its parts, seem to prove the whole to be of Roman origin. Add to this, that on the top of the inclosed hill, to the west of the Beacon, there are still to be seen the remains of a small square fortification, adjacent to which are three sepulchral barrows. This great work is called in Cornish the Kledh, which signifies the trench or foss, and is said by the vulgar to be the work of a giant called Bolster. That the Romans sometimes made their works for defence of a circular form cannot be doubted, particularly when the situation of the ground, on which they were to encamp, prevented them from adopting the square figure, which on a plain they certainly preferred; if this be admitted, may we not reasonably conclude, that some of the round works, on the tops of hills in this county, were Roman, especially if we find that Roman ways passed near or through them, or that Roman coins be found in them.

At the distance of eight miles to the N. E. of St. Agnes, and about the same distance to the north west of St. Michael's, is ST. PERAN IN THE SANDS, which is seated on the shore of St. George's channel. St. Peran, or St. Piran, was in such high esteem in Cornwall, that there are no less than three churches and chapels dedicated to him. That of this place is a valuable vicarage in the patronage of the dean and chapter of Exeter. Camden tells us this was an Irish saint, and that he was buried here. This church had, in the time of Edward the Confessor, a dean and canons, and was endowed with lands, and the privilege of a sanctuary. The church was given by Henry the First, to the bishop and church of Exeter;

Exeter; and there was afterwards in this place a cell of Cistercian monks, subordinate to Beaulieu Abbey in Hampshire. The bishops of Bodmyn had a manor here, called San Piran, now almost covered by the sands.

In LAMBOURN downs in this parish, was found in a barrow an urn, which contained about two gallons, and within it were ashes, small pieces of bones and charcoal; by the side of it were two vessels, probably sacrificial, greatly resembling some of the Roman pateræ.

From thence the road leads four miles east to TREW or TREWINON, a small village noted only for having two fairs, for cattle chiefly, annually, on Holy Thursday and July 25.

ST. MICHAEL'S or MITCHEL, which is four miles to the southward of Trew, is a despicable town, consisting of about thirty thatched houses and one inn. It stands in the two parishes of Newlin and St. Enedore, which last is a valuable vicarage in the gift of the Bishop of Exon. St. Michael's is governed by a portreeve, chosen annually by a jury of the chief inhabitants, out of the six principal tenants, who are called Deputy Lords of the manor, because they possess lands in the borough. The manor belongs to the Arundels of Llhanhern, one of the ancestors of which family procured for this place the privileges of a free borough, with a market and fair, both which are now disused.

In the 30th of Edward I. this little town was called Modishole, whence perhaps by corruption its present name. It is one of the oldest boroughs by prescription in the county, and first sent representatives to parliament, on the 6th of Edward VI. in which return it is called, Burgus et villa Mychel, Mitchel or Modishole, and no where St. Michael, till of late. By a vote of the House

of Commons, on the 20th of March 1700, the election of the representatives was ordered to be for the future performed by the lords of the borough capable of being Portreeves, and such of the inhabitants as pay scot and lot, which are in number about 25. St. Michael's is a great thoroughfare in the road from London to St. Just.

From St. Michael the road extends seven miles north-east to ST. COLUMB, a small market town, pleasantly situated on a rising ground near the banks of a small river, which falls into the sea at a place called Port Glevan. There are not much above 100 houses in the town, and these are mean buildings, yet the streets are broad and tolerably well paved. The justices of the south division keep their sessions here once in three weeks, holding a court for determining all suits, where the cause of action does not exceed the value of forty shillings. The town took its name from Columba, to which saint the church is dedicated; it was formerly of great note, having three chantries, and the rectory is at present one of the most considerable in the county, it being very extensive, and valued at no less than 53 l. 6 s. 8 d. in the king's books. The lordship belongs to the lords Arundel of Wardour. There is a weekly market held here on Thursdays, and two annual fairs on Thursday after Nov. 13, and the Thursday in Midlent, chiefly for cattle.

Eight miles to the northward of the last-mentioned town, is PADSTOW or PETROESTOW, as it was formerly called, which stands eighteen miles south-west of Camelford, and is seated on the west side of Padstow Haven, which is formed by the mouth of the river Camel, near its influx into Bristol channel. The harbour is by far the best on the north-side of the county; for it is capable of receiving many ships of great burthen, and

and is convenient for the Irish trade, it not being above 24 hours sail from that coast; but then it is very dangerous of access without a skilful pilot, there being rocks on the east side, and banks of sand on the west. There is a small herring fishery here about the month of October; in other matters the trade of the town is inconsiderable, though the inhabitants have some dealings in slates for covering the roofs of houses. This town was formerly called Loderick and Laffenac, and afterwards Adelstow, or Athelstan's place, the inhabitants having a tradition, that king Athelstan was a great benefactor to the town, and endow'd it with many privileges. It received its present name Padstow or Petroc-stow, from one *Petroc*, a British saint and hermit, who lived a religious life in a cell near the town. Leland tells us, that the tomb or shrine of this saint was remaining in his time, in the east side of the church. The town is governed by a mayor and inferior officers, and there is a weekly market here on Saturdays, though no ways considerable, with two annual fairs, on April 18, and Sept. 21, for cattle, &c.

In this town, Humphrey Prideaux, the learned dean of Norwich, was born, on the 3d of May 1648. He was educated first at Westminster school under doctor Busby, and afterwards at Christ Church in Oxford. In 1676, he published his *Marmora Oxoniensia*, &c. which introduced him to the acquaintance of the lord chancellor Finch, afterwards earl of Nottingham, who, in 1679, presented him to the rectory of St. Clement's near Oxford; and in 1681, bestowed on him a prebend of Norwich. During the reign of king James II. he signalized himself by his writings in defence of the Protestant faith; and for his eminent services on that occasion he was, immediately after the revolution, promoted to the arch-

deaconry of Suffolk. In 1691, he was offered the Hebrew professorship at Oxford; but this offer he thought proper to decline. In 1697, he published his *Life of Mahomet*; and in 1702, was installed dean of Norwich. About eight years after, he was cut for the stone, which interrupted his studies for some time; but he had no sooner recovered from this painful distemper, than he went on with his *Connection of the History of the Old and New Testament*, which he at length completed. He died November the 1st, 1724, and was interred, according to his own direction, in the cathedral church of Norwich. He was a man of a most amiable character, very regular in his manner of life, and usually in his study by five in the morning.

GUDELION, situated to the east of Padstow haven, is a village about nine miles S. W. of Boffiney. In the parish church of this place there were three prebends, founded before the twentieth of Edward I. which still subsist. The living is a rectory in the patronage of the crown, but the prebends are all in lay hands. The first is called the King's, alias Bodmin prebend; this either is, or lately was, in the gift of the family of Bassett. The second is Manney's prebend, lately in the gift of the earls of Radnor; and the third and last is Trehavenock prebend, in the gift of Mr. Harper.

About five miles to the south-east of Padstow, and 231 from London, is situated WAADBRIDGE, WARBRIDGE, or WADBRIDE, which takes its name from its Bridge over the river Camel, or Alan. It is a small town, in the road from St. Colomb, and has a market on Saturdays, with three annual fairs, namely, on May 12, June 22, and October 10, for cattle, cloth and hops. This bridge is said to have been built by the gentlemen

of

of the county, to prevent the dangers which horsemen were exposed to at the ferry. Tradition informs us, that some of the piers were built upon woolpacks, where the foundation was a quick sand. The subscription for carrying on this structure, was greatly promoted by Nicholas Lovibond, vicar of the place, as hath been before observed, in treating of the rivers of this county.

ST. UDEY, or ST. TUDY, is a village about five miles E. by N. of Wadbridge, and seven miles N. of Bodmin. It has two annual fairs, on May 20, and Sept. 14, chiefly for cattle; the living of the parish is a valuable rectory, formerly in the patronage of the lords Mohun, worth above 300 l. *per annum*.

BODMIN is situated seven miles south of St. Udey, in the road to Lestwithiel, from which it is only five miles distant. It is a borough, and sends two members to parliament. In Leland's time it had so large a market, that it resembled a fair. He informs us, there was a chapel at the west-end of the town, and a handsome parish church at the east-end; also a chantery chapel. It had a priory that stood at the east-end of the parish churchyard, which was first established at Padstow; but when the monks removed from thence, they brought with them the body of Petroc, and the church here was dedicated to that saint. This town was called Petrocstow by the Saxons; but by the Britons, Bodmanna, that is, the habitation of the Monks. Edward the elder, founded a bishop's see here in the year 905. Ethelstan, succeeding his father Edward, made an entire conquest of Cornwall, in the year 936; and among other liberalities, bestowed on the monks such privileges and lands on this priory, that he was ever after looked upon as its founder. Here
the

the bishops of Cornwall resided till the year 987, when the town, church and monastery, being burnt by the Danes, the bishops removed their seats to St. Germain's, on the river Linar, six miles north-east of Plymouth; but the monastery was rebuilt soon after the conquest; for William Warlewast, bishop of Exeter, erected the last foundation of this priory, as Leland expresses it; at that time the shrine and tomb of St. Petroc was yet standing in the east part of the church; Leland tells us, that in this house there were first monks, then nuns, thirdly secular priests; afterwards monks again; and lastly, secular canons: it was Algar, a nobleman, that placed the black canons regular here, between the years 1110 and 1120. These continued till the dissolution, when it was stiled the priory of St. Mary, and St. Petroc, and was valued by Dugdale at 276*l.* a year; but by Speed at 289.

Bodmin was anciently governed by a mayor and 36 burgessees; but at present by a mayor, 12 aldermen, 24 common councilmen, and a town clerk. The members of parliament are chosen by a majority of the corporation. The church, which formerly belonged to the Priory, is now the parish church. The town is seated in a bottom, between two hills, which Camden says, renders it unwholesome to the inhabitants, especially new comers; but in this respect later authors do not agree with him. It consists chiefly of one long street, and was once more large, populous, and of greater account than it is at present; which is abundantly testified by the ruins of several streets and churches, still visible; however, the houses are in general pretty well built. The living is a vicarage, in the gift of the Prideaux family. Besides the priory already-mentioned to have been removed hither from Padstow, there was

was also, in the south part of this town, a house for grey friars, a chapel and an alms-house, but not endowed, and a chantery called St. John the Baptist's, or Naylor's chantery, founded in the parish church by one Naylor, who endowed it with 6*l.* *per annum*, for a priest to celebrate mass there for ever. He was a clerk in chancery, and a native of this town.

The remains of the priory, and episcopal palace, are still to be seen, and the church is esteemed the largest in the county; but the spire belonging to it was destroyed by lightening in the year 1699. The houses, in number about 300, are very inconveniently built on the sides of two hills, one of which to the south is very steep. We find in this place a sheriff's prison for debtors, and a free-school maintained partly by the duke of Cornwall, and partly by the corporation. The principal manufacture is yarn, which was once the only staple, but that trade is now much decayed.

Bodmin has been eminently concerned in two rebellions; the first was that of Perkin Warbeck, who collected forces here till he thought himself in a condition to attack Exeter; and the other was in the time of Edward the VIth, when the Cornish and Devonshire men rising, one Boyer, mayor of Bodmin, was very active in assisting them, for which he suffered death, which indeed is not extraordinary: but this cannot be said of the unparalleled and wanton cruelty of Sir Anthony Kingston, in his execution, which will ever cover his memory with infamy. This wretch, who was provost-marshal of the king's army, on his coming to Bodmin, sent orders to the mayor, to cause a gibbet to be erected in the street, opposite his own house, by the next day at noon, letting him know, that he would then dine with him,

in

in order to be present at the execution of some rebels. The unsuspecting mayor obeyed this command; provided an entertainment for his guest, and at the time appointed regaled his visitor, who put about the wine, till the mayor's spirits being exhilarated; he asked him, if the gibbet was ready? And being answered that it was; Kingston, with a wanton and diabolical sneer, ordered him to be hanged upon it. Among other unhappy persons, whose mistaken zeal had drawn them in to this rebellion, was a miller, whose servant had such an affection for him, that hearing his master was to die, he generously came to Kingston, and offered to die in his stead, alledging, that he could never do his master better service. On which the knight, instead of being struck with this amazing instance of heroism, fidelity and friendship, coolly told him, that if he liked hanging so well, he should not be disappointed, and instantly ordered him to be tied up.

There is annually kept at Holgaver Moor, near this town, about the middle of July, a kind of carnival, supposed to derive its original from the times before the conquest; it is resorted to by thousands of people, and king Charles the II^d. honoured it with his presence, in his journey to Scilly, becoming a brother of the society. This carnival is called by the common people Bodmin riding. There is a considerable market still kept at Bodmin, on Saturdays, for corn and provisions; and the inhabitants have four annual fairs, namely, on January 25, Saturday after midlent Sunday, Wednesday before Whitsunday, and December 6, for horses, oxen, sheep, cloth, and a few hops.

Richard Lower, an eminent physician and anatomist of the seventeenth century, was born at Tremere, near Bodmin, about the year 1631. He
received

received his education at Westminster-school, and Christ-Church, Oxford; where, after going thro' his course of philosophy, he applied himself solely to the study of physick, which he intended to make his profession. In this he soon made so considerable a progress, that the famous Dr. Willis took him as a companion and assistant in attending his country patients. In 1666, he removed to London, where he was chosen a member of the royal society, and of the college of physicians; and his reputation continuing daily to increase, he came at length to be esteemed one of the ablest physicians in the city. But having had the misfortune to disoblige the court, by joining with the whigs in the affair of the Popish plot, he lost a great part of his practice, which he was never able to recover. He died in 1691, and was interred at St. Udey, near Bodmin. He was the discoverer of the medicinal spring, known by the name of *Astrop Wells*, in Northamptonshire. His treatise on the heart is a masterly performance; and he endeavoured, in an essay published in the Philosophical Transactions, to shew a safe method of transfusing the blood of one animal into another.

ST. LAURENCE, about three miles west of Bodmin, is an indifferent village, yet has two annual fairs, namely, on Aug. 10, and October 18, for cattle, cloth, &c. There was at this place an hospital, well endowed for nineteen leproous persons, two whole or healthy men and women, with a priest, to minister to them in a chapel adjoining.

ST. ROCHE, is a village about seven miles S. W. of Bodmin, in the road to Grampont. Here on a high, steep, rugged rock lived an hermit, who was afterwards sainted, and gave name to the town. His chapel was partly carved out of the
rock,

rock, and adjoining to it was his cell. The living is a valuable rectory, in the patronage of the Arundels.

From Bodmin a road extends thirteen miles to CAMELFORD, which is situated sixteen miles west of Launceston, and 250 from London; though a borough, it is but a poor place, for it does not contain above an hundred houses badly built. It lies in the parish of Lanteglos, and being incorporated by king Charles the First, is governed by a mayor, and eight burgeses or aldermen, who with ten freemen, elect two members of parliament. The corporation enjoys the toll of the markets and fairs, which, with an estate of fifteen pounds a year, make together about 80 l. which sum serves for the support of the magistrates. The inhabitants having no church or chapel in the town, repair to the parish church, which is about a mile distant. This is an antient borough, it being made so by a charter from Richard, duke of Cornwall, who, when he was king of the Romans, granted them their market, and a fair. These privileges were afterwards fully confirmed by his brother king Henry the Third. This borough began to send representatives to parliament in the reign of Edward the Sixth, and this liberty was confirmed by queen Mary. The streets are broad and well-paved, and it has a considerable market held on Fridays for yarn, a great quantity of which is spun in this place and its neighbourhood. It has also four annual fairs, namely, on Friday after March 10, May 26, July 17, and on Sept. 6, for horses, oxen, sheep, and a few hops.

Camelford has been made famous by two battles fought in its neighbourhood; the first was between the great king Arthur, and his nephew Modred, who had usurped his kingdom. This war had lasted seven years without any thing decisive;

elusive; for though Modred was continually defeated, yet were his forces as often recruited, by the supplies he received from the Picts and Saxons, Arthur's old and inveterate enemies. The superiority of Modred's forces was still ballanced by the valour and experience of Arthur. At last the fatal blow was given in 542; for Arthur pursuing his enemy from place to place, drove him to the extremity of Damnonium, our Cornwall, where he could not avoid fighting. This last battle was fought on the banks of the river Camel, and proved fatal, as well to the two leaders, as to all the Britons, who having lost their best troops, were no longer able to stand against the Saxons. During this bloody battle, the uncle and nephew happening to meet, rushed upon one another so furiously, that nothing but death could part them. Modred was killed upon the spot, and Arthur being mortally wounded, was carried to Glassenbury, where he died aged 90 years, 75 of which he had spent in the continual exercise of arms. Another battle is said to have been fought here between the Saxons and Britons, about the year 820.

Near lord Falmouth's seat in Worthyvale, about a mile and a half from Camelford, is a stone nine feet nine inches long, and two feet three inches wide. It was formerly a foot bridge, and was called Slaughter Bridge, according to tradition, from the bloody battle fought near it, in which king Arthur lost his life. But this, as Mr. Borlase observes, is a vulgar error, it having this Latin inscription, *COPIN HIC JACET—FILIVS MAGARI*; whence it evidently appears to have been a funeral monument, besides the manner in which it is written, shews that it cannot be so ancient as the time of Arthur.

Five miles to the westward of Camelford is BOSSINEY, a small village, consisting of about twenty houses. It is a hamlet in the parish of Tintagel, and sends two members to parliament. It is governed by a mayor and burgesses; all who have free land in the borough, and live in the parish, are deemed freemen, and have votes at the election of the members and magistrates: the number of electors is said to be under twenty.

Tintagel castle was one of the four houses of the antient earls of Cornwall, and stands partly on the mainland, and partly on an island. The manor is a very ancient demesne of the crown, and the castle has been reckoned one of the wonders of the world. It is situated about half a mile from Bossiney, and the two parts of it were formerly joined together by a drawbridge, which is long since ruined by the fall of the cliffs of the island. The farthermost point of the rock, called Blackhead, is well known to mariners, and the island is wholly inaccessible by water, except at one place towards the east, and there it is very difficult and incommodious; this passage is artificially barred with a strong wall of lime and stone, through which was a gate-way, and, in Carew's time, an iron gate. Under the island the sea runs into a natural cave, or arch of rocks; this passage formerly reached to the main on the other side of the drawbridge, and was navigable for boats at full sea, but the farther end is now stopped by the fall of the cliffs above-mentioned. Over this stood the castle now in ruins. To describe in words its present state, would not be very easy, yet a perfect idea may be conceived, both of that and its former magnificence, from the engraved plate given of it with this work. It was chiefly built of stone, and the cement used was so strong, that in many places, where the stone
itself



The North View of Tintagel Castle in the County of Cornwall .



itself gave way to the attacks of time, this remained unhurt. On the top of the hill is a cave which goes far under-ground, and is said to be an hermit's grave dug out of the solid rock. On the island is a fine spring of water; this is a consecrated well, with a chapel adjoining, dedicated to St. Julian, or St. Uliane, but now very ruinous for want of proper repairs. The island is let for about 5*l.* *per annum*, and twice a year, about thirty sheep are bred on it, which thrive to admiration. The back or outer part of this island contains about three acres, and affords good pasture for sheep, goats and rabbits. This castle and manor were granted by Edward III. to his son the Black Prince, when he created him duke of Cornwall, from which time it became united to the dutchy, and is now held by the corporation, at the fee-farm rent of 1*l.* 16*s.* 9*d.* *per annum*. The castle is very ancient, and is said to have been the seat of the dukes or princes of Cornwall, in the times of the Britons, and many think it was the birth place of king Arthur. As a fortress, it is very injudiciously situated, most of the works being commanded by the higher part of the hill, yet this seems some evidence of its being built by the Britons, before they had learned the art of war of the Romans. It continued to be one of the castles of the dukes of Cornwall till the time of Richard, king of the Romans, who here entertained his nephew David, prince of Wales. After the death of Richard, and his son Edmond, earls of Cornwall, all the ancient castles went to ruin, and instead of being palaces, were converted into prisons, and this among the rest; however, a yearly stipend was allowed for keeping it, till the reign of queen Elizabeth, when the lord treasurer Burleigh abolished it, as a superfluous charge to the crown.

BOSCASTLE is situated on the north-western coast, about four miles north of Camelford, and about 243 from London. Its ancient name was Bottereux castle, which it received from the ancestors of a family, who built a castle here, the ruins of which are still to be seen. From this family it descended by a daughter and heiress to the Hungerford's, and from them to the family of Hastings, which enjoyed the castle till the reign of queen Elizabeth. This town was, in ancient times, of some note, but is now a mean place, tho' it still continues to have a small Thursday's market, and has two annual fairs, on Aug. 5, and Nov. 22, for cattle, cloth, and a few hops.

Some authors have doubted, whether the Romans ever conquered Cornwall; but the affirmative seems now very plain, from the great number of Roman antiquities found almost in every part of the county. The ancient inhabitants were called Damnonii, or according to some Dunmonii, and inhabited Devonshire, as well as Cornwall, and some part of Somersetshire. We are informed by Mr. Luyd, that the Dumnonian, and other Southern Britons, were on account of their situation conquered more early, than other parts of this island. In the first summer of Agricola's command in Britain, he destroyed the Ordovices, or the Britons of North Wales, and reduced the isle of Anglesey. In his second campaign, he made a great progress, vanquishing all before him, from Anglesey to Edinburgh, according to Gordon; but according to Horsley, Cumberland and Northumberland; but be that as it will, the intermediate nations must be included; for we cannot suppose Agricola would leave an enemy on his back. In the third summer he advanced as far in Scotland as the river Tay, building several forts. The fourth summer, as we are informed

informed by Tacitus, was spent in erecting forts on the Isthmus, between the river Clyde, and the frith of Edinburgh. In the fifth year he provided ships, and conquered nations unknown before to the Romans, putting garrisons, in that part of the country, over against Ireland. The question is, who these unknown nations were, concerning which there are various opinions; but Borlase is pretty positive, they were the Belgæ and Damnonii. However, this clashes with Lohyd's opinion, respecting the time of their being first conquered.

After the invasion of the Saxons, the dukes of Cornwall not only maintained their own ground, but assisted the Welch to keep their country; for Blederic, duke of Cornwall, joining with the kings of Wales, defeated king Ethelfred, in a battle near Banchor, and drove him beyond the Humber. These dukes never submitted to the Saxons, during the Heptarchy, and though when they assisted the Danish invaders, who began to infest this island, in the year 835, against king Egbert, the victorious Saxon monarch, they were conquered by him, yet were they still governed by their own princes, who ruled over Devonshire also. At last, however, king Ethelstan drove them out of Devonshire, and obliged them to keep beyond the river Tamar.

It is uncertain whether the people of Cornwall were subject to this monarch or not; yet we may safely affirm, that William the Conqueror either annexed the county to his dominions, or found it already done to his hands.

The Cornish Britons were not early converted to Christianity; for the Christian religion made scarcely any progress in this part of the island till the time of Arthur, who reigned in the 6th century, and even then there seemed to be but a dawning of it. They were chiefly converted by
St.

St. Petroc and his disciples, who came here about the year 518, and settled in the monastery of Petrocstow, now Padstow. After paying a visit to Rome, then the chief university of the empire, he returned into Cornwall, and having resided and taught there for thirty years, died about the year 564, being buried at Padstow, though his body was afterwards removed to Bodmin, as we have already noticed in our account of that town. A considerable number of other saints came about the same time from Ireland, which was then the principal nursery for learned men in Europe, in order to assist at the great work of conversion, and indeed Cornwall retained the purity of the Christian religion, long after the rest of the Island was over-run with Saxons and Paganism. After the conversion of the Saxons, about the beginning of the 7th century, there were several disputes betwixt Austin of Canterbury, and the British Christians, who had not given into any of the Romish innovations, but preserved their religion in the original purity, in which it was when they were first taught it. The great subject of debate was about the time of holding Easter, and admitting the supremacy of the Roman church. There was no episcopal see in Cornwall till the year 905, in the reign of Edward the Elder, son to king Alfred the Great. This prince then erected three new bishopricks, namely, Wells, Crediton and Cornwall, to the latter of which he promoted Adelstan, and at the council, in which this was agreed to, a provision was made to recover the Cornish men from their errors, viz. their refusing to acknowledge the papal authority.

We shall conclude our account of Cornwall, with brief memoirs of two or three other remarkable persons, natives of this county. Sir Bevil Greenvile, son of Bernard Greenvile, and grandson

grandson of Sir Richard Greenville, the famous sea-officer, was born at his father's seat, in this county, in the year 1596. Upon the breaking out of the civil wars in 1642, he adhered to the king, to whom he performed the most important services. He raised a regiment at his own expence, and having persuaded other gentlemen to follow his example, he was able, in a little time, to form a considerable army. With this he defeated the earl of Stamford, one of the parliamentary generals, in the battle of Stratton, and soon after obtained a complete victory over the famous Sir William Waller; though in this last engagement he lost his life. Never was man more universally or more deservedly beloved; so that, during those times of civil fury and discord, when each party seemed willing to confine all merit to themselves, complete justice has been done his memory, even by parliamentary writers.

Richard Carpenter, a divine and poet of the last age, was a native of Cornwall, and had his education at Eton college near Windsor, and from thence was elected scholar of King's college in Cambridge, in the year 1622, where, continuing about three years, he left England, to prosecute his studies in different parts of Europe. Being converted to the Romish religion, and taking upon him a mission into England, he did not continue in this station above a year, before he again returned to Protestantism, and by the archbishop of Canterbury's interest, obtained a small house by the sea-side, near Arundel castle in Sussex. Here he was exposed to the insults and abuses of the Romish party, particularly of one Francis, of St. Clara, who lived in that neighbourhood, and went by the name of Hunt. In the time of the civil war he quitted his living, and retired to Paris, where once more reconciling himself

himself to the Romish church, he made it his business to rail against the Protestants. Upon his return to England, he again became a protestant; and settling at Aylesbury in Buckinghamshire, he would often preach there in a very fantastical manner, to the great mirth of his audience. Before his death, he returned a third time to Popery, causing his pretended wife to embrace the same persuasion. He published some sermons, and a comedy, called *The Pragmatical Jesuit*.

Walter Moyle, a learned and polite writer, in the seventeenth century, was the son of Sir Walter Moyle, and born at Bake near Loo, in 1672. After finishing his studies at Oxford, he removed to the Temple, where he applied himself chiefly to the general, and more noble parts of the law, such as led to the knowledge of the constitution of the English government. In 1695, he turned into English four of Lucian's dialogues, which make part of the translation of that elegant author, which was afterwards published. In 1697 he assisted Mr. Trenchard, in writing his book against a standing army. The next year he composed an *Essay on the Lacedemonian government*, and another upon that of Rome; and was sedulously employed in planning other works, when death put a period to all his great designs, on the 9th day of June, 1721, in the fiftieth year of his age. He was for some time a member of parliament, in which he always acted an honourable part, exerting himself vigorously in support of every measure, which he thought conducive to the interest of his country.

Of the CASSITERIDES, or SCILLY ISLANDS.

There are a cluster of islands and rocks, lying to the west of Cornwall. Camden says, that
about

about one hundred and forty-five islands go by the name of Scilly, all clad with grass, and covered with greenish moss, besides many hideous rocks, and huge stones, above water, placed in a kind of circle, eight leagues from the utmost promontory of Cornwall. But his accounts of these islands appear very inaccurate, that learned and judicious writer giving only the sentiments of ancient authors on this subject. Mr. Borlase, to whom we are obliged for the natural history and antiquities of the county of Cornwall, has since published the ancient and present state of the islands of Scilly, which he himself visited; we shall therefore take him for our guide in matters of the greatest moment relating to them.

It is remarkable, that so small and inconsiderable a spot as the isle of Scilly, whose cliffs hardly any thing but birds can mount, and whose barrenness would scarce suffer any thing but birds to inhabit it, should give name to all these islands; but the last mentioned author observes, that there is reason to believe, from the situation of the shores, that this island, which is now only a bare rock, was formerly joined to others by low necks of land, and that Trefcaw, St. Martin's, Brehar, Sampson, and the adjoining rocks and islets, made formerly but one island, which obtained the name Scilly, and having some little islands scattered round it, it gave its name to its inferiors; whence what were called by the Greeks Cassiterides, were named by the Latin authors Sigdeles, Sillinæ, Silures, and by the English Sylley, Sulley and Scilly.

The principal islands are St. Mary's, Agnes, Annet, Trefcaw or St. Nicholas, North Welkel or Arwothel, Tean, St. Martin's, Breher and Sampson, in all which there are about one thousand inhabitants. The air is in general healthy,

it being fanned by the sea-breezes proceeding from every quarter, and is not at all infected by unwholsome vapours, arising from large marshy grounds; however, the sea fogs are more common here, than in more extensive tracts of land. If a storm happens before the crops are above ground, or after they are housed, it throws the spray of the sea over the land: and if soon after gentle showers succeed, the grass will spring the better; but as there are no trees or deep vallies, these storms greatly damage the crops from whatever quarter the wind blows; for they drive the salt spray with such fury, that it breaks or burns up every thing that is tender; but these are inconveniences to which most little islands are subject in this climate. In the months of June and July the air is filled with offensive vapours, which are not easily dispersed, by the inhabitants burning ore-weed to make kelp; and in the summer, the air is exceeding hot, on account of the reflection of the sun from the sand; and in winter the sand is apt to be blown up from the coves, which renders walking out very disagreeable.

The people of these islands have very few diseases, for the inhabitants are seldom afflicted with the ague, and a fever is very uncommon; but the small-pox is the most frequent and fatal distemper; hence those that are temperate, live to a great age; but unhappily spirituous liquors are too much used in all these little islands.

The stones of these islands are chiefly of the grey moor stone kinds, with black spots, and a mixture of leafy talc. Some have a red ground, mingled with white debased crystal, and form a beautiful granite; but there is nothing more surprising, than to find so few veins in the rocks of these islands, which were formerly so famous for tin. On the sea-shore of Cornwall, and in the cliffs,

cliffs, there are a great number of veins of one sort or other in the clay, rubble or rock, wherever you pass; but here it is generally one continued rock, and the crevices in them are so close, that they will hardly admit a knife. There is one vein at Trescaw, about two feet broad, on a cliff near the place called the Gun-well; there is also another narrow one, on the same island, under Oliver's battery. The former has been worked for tin, and has several shafts and purrows along its course. There was also one vein found in Porthmellyn cove.

When the Phenicians traded here for tin, it must have been in great plenty, which made them very jealous of it; for Strabo tells us, that the master of a Phenician vessel, who was bound here, perceiving that he was dogged by a Roman, run his ship ashore, thus risking his life, ship and cargo, rather than admit a partner in the commerce. The Romans, however, persisting in their resolution to have a share in this trade, brought it about at last. But from what now appears of the tin works, there never seems to have been much got out of these islands; the sands seem to consist of small gravel, broken off by the violence of the sea from the moor stones, which line the shores of all the islands in great plenty. The finest sand, so much in request by the Cornish people and others, for scowering and for drying up writing ink, is found only in Porthmellyn cove on St. Mary's island. In one part of St. Mary's island they have a shelly sand, and those who understand husbandry best, make use of it as manure. However, in general, the inhabitants are too apt to depend on the fertility of their soil, and neglect the proper methods of cultivation. The moor stone sand contributes very little to vegetation, after the salt of the sea is washed from it;

for there is no occasion for keeping the soil loose and open, it being naturally mixed with rough gravel, and therefore not apt to grow stiff.

The water in the high ground of St. Mary's is very good, that of Helveor-well, about two miles from Heugh town, is remarkably pure and soft. There is also a good spring in Holy vale, even with the surface of the ground, and a deep one in the lines belonging to the master gunner. But they have no brooks or rivers, nor indeed any running water in these islands, except for a little while after great floods. Chalybeat waters there are none, which is the less surprizing, because their veins and metals are so few. The soil is very good for all sorts of grain, except wheat; however, they have a little in St. Mary's island; but it makes an indifferent sort of bread. They have good barley and rye, and a very small quantity of oats; but, instead of the latter, they sow another seed called Pillar, which thrives very well in the coarsest grounds. It serves for all the purposes of oat meal exceeding well, and is generally preferred to it. It needs no hulling like common oats, and is therefore called by Ray, and others, Naked Oats.

There is but one corn mill in all these islands, which is a windmill on Peninis. However, they have a hand mill at every house, which consists of two small stones, about two feet in diameter, and four inches thick, in the shape of common mill-stones, which may be set closer or wider by raising or depressing the upper stone. The mill is placed at such a height from the ground, as that a man may stand, and easily turn the upper stone, by means of a stick five feet long, and one inch and a half in diameter. One end of this rests in a socket made for it in the middle of the radius of the upper stone; and the upper end is inserted in
a hole,

a hole, in a beam of the chamber above. In these two holes the stick, standing obliquely, turns easily with the hand; but the stones, being of small dimensions, and of little weight, the corn is a long time in grinding.

In the inhabited parts of these islands they have various sorts of roots. Pulse and fallads grow very well; they have also dwarf fruit trees, gooseberries, currants, raspberries, and all shrubs, that will not rise above the height of the stone enclosures; and even these would do better, if they would plant shelters of elder, Dutch elm, sycamore, and the like, in clumps and hedge rows, for without these, all vegetables lie exposed to the winds, in proportion to their height. In their gardens pot-herbs, and herbs for distillation, are as plentiful, and as good here as any where. The ranunculus, anemone, and most other flowers, will do very well; but if the roots are left long in the ground, there is a sort of worm which does them a great deal of mischief, and hinders them from blowing again.

There are a variety of plants growing wild in these islands.

The sea poppy bears a pale yellow, single flower, and the root is greatly valued for removing all pains of the breast, stomach and intestines; it is also good for disordered lungs, and is thought to be much better here than in other places. The eringo, or sea holly, is common on the sandy beach; they have the wild tansey, and a kind of musk, but not the odoriferous. They have sea wreck, among their ore weed, of a fine scarlet, and other pretty colours. Also good laver. Their samphire is the best and largest of the kind; and it is said, there is wild garlick in some of the off-lands.

Their black cattle are generally small, which may be partly owing to their giving them no hay; for they are all turned loose in the fields to feed upon the ore weed; and indeed the cattle that are brought up in this manner never thrive, unless they are at liberty to resort to the ore weed; for without it they are apt to pine away; and many have died for want of it. Their horses are small but lively, and fit for labour.

Their sheep thrive extremely well, the grass on the commons being short, dry, and full of the same little snails, as give so fine a relish to the Sennan and Philack mutton, in the west of Cornwall; the sheep will also fill themselves with ore weed, as well as the bullocks.

Most of the islands have such pastures, and rocky commons, as would maintain a great number of goats to advantage, and afford the inhabitants kids milk, and venison, at a much cheaper rate than they have mutton and lamb; for goats will live where sheep dare not feed; besides, they require less care. On the island of St. Helens, the cattle might find good shelter, let the wind blow from what quarter it will; and deer might probably thrive there very well.

They have many rabbits, but no hares, nor will the rabbits suffer a hare to live among them; but as there are many islands uncultivated, it is beyond all doubt, that the hares and rabbits might both be distributed more to the satisfaction of the inhabitants.

They have a small bird here scarcely so big as a lark, of an ash colour and white, called a Hedge-Chicker, which is thought by many to be as delicious as an ortolan. Partridges, brought over lately to encrease and stock the islands, have answered that purpose very well. Wild fowls of all sorts, from the swan to the snipe, may be shot in
great

great plenty in the winter time. They have but few thrushes; but every sort of tame poultry, is to be found here in great perfection. Sea birds, especially puffins, are very numerous; they build upon the desolate rocks, and have a fishy taste.

There is no adder, or venomous creature of any kind, in these islands; but in some houses they have very troublesome flies, which however are not venomous. They hide themselves by day, and come out in swarms by night, spreading themselves over the kitchen and pantry, devouring all the eatables they can come at. These are known to seamen by the name of Cock-roches; they have four wings of a brown tortoise-shell colour, but are not so large here as in some other places; for in the West-Indies they are sometimes five inches long.

The inhabitants are considerably more numerous than they were eighty years ago, and their buildings and numbers are still encreasing. With regard to their ecclesiastical jurisdiction, these islands are in the diocese of Exeter, as they were in the bishopric of Cornwall, before that see was translated to Exeter. But Mr. Borlase, who visited them in 1752, says, there is but one clergyman in all these islands, so that if he happens to be sick, divine service must cease till his recovery; and when he dies, they may be many weeks without it, so that baptising, marrying, and the administration of the Lord's Supper, must be omitted, till another is placed in his room. When in health, he goes to each off-island once a year, and all the rest of the time they are instructed by the island clerk, who reads, or endeavours to read, parts of sermons. If another clergyman was settled at Trefcaw, he might often attend the churches of St. Martin and Brehar in the afternoon, and the people of these islands, and Samp-

son, might often come to Trescaw. He might also assist the chaplain of St. Mary's, in case of sickness, and supply his place when he happens to die.

The present islanders, of both sexes, are comely, civil to strangers, and remarkable for speaking good English. The men, though at other times employed about husbandry, are much used to boats and fishing, which renders them active and hardy. They are also used to fowling in the winter, and consequently are very fit to make either good soldiers or sailors; and in times of danger, the security of the islands must chiefly depend upon the spirit and docility of the inhabitants; for without this, the garrison would be of little consequence.

The inhabitants, as we have already observed, employ themselves in husbandry, fishing, and making kelp. Their situation for the first is extremely good, because the smallness of the islands places them near the sea-sand and the ore weed, which, with the manure of their sheep, and other cattle, a kindly soil, and plenty of stones to make fences, are here great encouragements to industry.

They catch mackrel in great plenty during the season; and their flat fish, soles, turbot and plaice, are as good as those met with any where else. They take also a large quantity of ling, which are thought to be better on the coasts of these islands than elsewhere, they being not so much spent as when they pass farther. They cure the ling with good salt, and send it dried to England and other parts. They have some salmon, salmon-peels, cod, pollack, and all other fish usually caught on the coasts of Cornwall; particularly great plenty of pilchards, which come into their coves, some time before they arrive in the bays
of

of Cornwall. Here they might be taken very readily, and be salted, pressed, and sent to market before those of their neighbours; and by curing them, the inhabitants, as well women and children, as men, might be more constantly employed than they are at present. But this advantage has been hitherto neglected.

The *alga marina*, fucus, or ore weed, is of great benefit to these islands; and grows plentifully on the rocks, which when the tide is out are uncovered, and all the shores expose this useful plant, as food for the cattle. Yet this is not the only use they make of it, for they collect, dry, and burn it, till it runs into a lump, or rather a kind of salt dross, which they export to Bristol, and other places, as one principal ingredient in making glass. It is also proper for making allum and soap. In the year 1751, they made as much kelp, or melted ore weed, as brought into the islands 500*l.* sterling.

Kelp is made in the months of June and July; for after July they think it for their advantage not to gather any more weed, but let it grow till the following year. There are several sorts of this *alga marina*, and each island has its proper limits assigned for gathering it. As the rocks near the sea shore cannot furnish a sufficient quantity, they go off in fair weather to distant ledges, where they place their boats. And when the water ebbs, and the boats touch the ground, they get out of them, and with hooks cut from the rocks the ore weed, and load their boats. When the tide rises they return home, and spread their cargo on the beach to dry. They turn it often, and cock the ore in the same manner as we do hay, but in much less heaps, and let it remain.

Having thus prepared the ore, and made a circular shelving pit in the sand, seven feet in diameter,

meter, and three feet deep, they line the side of the pit with stones, to prevent the sand or earth from mixing with the kelp. They then put a small bush of lighted furze into the bottom of the pit, lightly placing some of the driest ore weed on the fire. Thus by degrees it gains great strength, when they feed it with fresh ore. At this time the smoke rises, which spreads itself like a thick heavy mist, with a most disagreeable smell; and if it is calm weather, it hangs in the air for some time after the burning is over. When the fire is very strong, it has the appearance of bright burning embers, and then they fall to mixing and stirring it with iron rakes, from one side of the pit to the other, till it begins to run, turning to a kind of imperfect glass. When the whole mass is melted, they let it settle, and it becomes a lump at the bottom of the pit, and is fit for exportation when cold.

There is a great deal of difference in the quality of kelp, and it requires more skill in burning, than can readily be imagined. That which has the closest texture, and closest grain, is to be preferred. Mr. Borlase observed, that when some of the best sort was laid in a window, in the month of June, in moist weather, it would imbibe the moist air plentifully, and wet every part of the window where it was moved. He thought this experiment proved, that the kelp consisted of a sea-salt principally; but in this he was mistaken, for it is an alkalious fixed salt, into which all vegetables turn, when they are burnt in the like manner.

An industrious man may get to the value of five or six pounds during the two months of the kelp season; several persons have obtained more, but then they sold it at two pounds three shillings per ton, which is a large price.

The

The broad leaved alga marina being taken from under water in the dog-days, and as soon as possible covered from the air with woollen cloth, the volatile salts, which will evaporate while it is exposed to the sun and air, may be preserved, and the leaves will be found covered with a sort of fugar, which may be shaken off, and is thought to be a very cooling medicine, exceeding all the preparations of purified nitre, according to an account published in the Philosophical Transactions; but this is a circumstance these islanders are unacquainted with.

With respect to the government of these islands, it will be sufficient to observe, that twelve of the principal inhabitants meet once a month, to hear complaints, and terminate little disputes; this is all the government they have, without calling in the military power, which is always done in heinous and criminal cases. As for common immoralities, they are never taken notice of; and if they were, the twelve men perhaps have neither discernment nor authority to correct them; for they even want power to compel the payment of small debts.

Having thus given the natural history of the soil, minerals, vegetables, and animals of the Scilly islands, with a concise account of the inhabitants and their employments, we shall proceed to take a view of the principal of these islands.

It is about six or eight miles passage, with a fair wind, from St. Michael's mount in Cornwall, to the island that lies most to the northward, and which bears the name of Scilly. In Mr. Borlase's passage thither, he was diverted with the fishes called Thornbacks, which have their name from their sharp and broad fins on the back. They are not like those called Thornbacks, in the more eastern parts of this kingdom, and which in all things

things resemble skate, except in their prickles or thorns. The above fish is from twelve to fifteen feet long, and of different colours; for some are brown, some milk white, and others variously spotted with both those colours. Mackrel are their prey, and in the pursuit of them they throw themselves out of the water, with a circular bound, like porpoises.

The largest, best cultivated island, and that which contains the greatest number of inhabitants, is ST. MARY'S, which is of greater value to the lord proprietor, than all the rest put together. The present number of inhabitants is at least 600, and the rents amount to about 300*l.* a year: this island is three miles long, and two broad.

The place called Old Town, lies in the eastern corner of a small cove or creek, fronting the south, and it was formerly the principal place in the island; but at present the houses are poor huts, with rope-thatch coverings. Behind them, on an eminence, are the remains of a castle, which is entirely demolished, except a part of the walls. In Leland's time it was a moderately strong structure. Here are several fishing boats kept within a poor little pier; but the cove is round, and the rocks and loose stones, which now encumber it, might easily be removed, and formed into a jetty head on each side the entrance, which would be of great use to pilots in strong easterly winds.

Near the Old Town is a green ridge edged with sand, and within it a low marshy piece of ground, lying to the right hand, and reaching from the south to the north sea, about half a mile in length, and as much in breadth. Borlase observes, that it is of great importance to keep the sea from over-running this valley; but in the great storm

storm in 1744, it was laid under water. They cut a drain through miry grounds and sand banks, and it requires frequent repairs to keep it open. This piece of ground is capable of making fine meadows, though it recovers its verdure but very slowly. At the western end of this cove stands lord Godolphin's house, and the church is just by, in the form of a cross, though not so old as the reformation. It is a decent structure, but has no tower; for which reason there are two covered niches, rising on the western end, for two bells. Hither they bring their children to be baptised, and here they perform their marriage ceremonies; but they bury their dead near the places where they depart this life. Before the cove of Old Town lies a small green island, on the sharp top of which is placed a crag of flat stones lying close to each other; the inhabitants call it Karn Lech, the meaning of which, in the Cornish language, is a group of flat rocks. There are several other karns in these islands, whose top-rocks look like so many rude thin pillars.

The New Town is about a mile distant from the Old, near a large sandy pool or bay, and in the neighbourhood of a peninsula, formed by nature for a fortification. The pool will hold an hundred sail of ships very commodiously; and the bottom is a soft ouzy bed with good anchorage. On the top of the peninsula, is a small fort called Star-castle, from its projecting like the rays of a star. It was built by Sir Francis Godolphin, governor, in the reign of queen Elizabeth; on the rampart the standard is erected, and on the salient angles are four little square rooms, in each of which it was intended a captain of the garrison should lodge. There is a foss between the rampart and the governor's house, which is square, roomy and handsome. From the castle,
down

down to the barracks, there is a wide terrace, on which 500 men may be drawn up. The barracks are at the entrance into the line, and are all built of moor stone flanked with bastions. The salient angles are two miles in compass, and go quite round the peninsula. Near one of the bastions is the store-house, where the arms and military stores are kept.

Just below the lines are the remains of an old fort, and there is a round hillock here, which seems to have had a keep at the top. Its walls have been demolished to build the lines, and it is called Mount-Holles. The little town, below these lines, is called Heugh-town, from the peninsula on which it stands. It is the most populous place in these islands, and in it is the custom-house. It is inhabited by tradesmen, and the buildings have been of late much improved, it being better supplied with provisions than formerly. Between twenty and thirty years ago, the inhabitants lived on salt provisions brought hither from England or Ireland; and whenever a bullock was killed, they kept part of it a considerable time; for instance, if it happened in September, they would reserve enough for their Christmas feast. They preserved it untainted by burying it in salt, and those that have tasted of it affirm, that it was far from eating amiss.

At the western end of this town is a handsome pier, built by the lord Godolphin, at the expence of 1100*l*. It was begun in 1749, finished in 1750, and is 430 feet long, twenty wide, in the narrowest part; and also twenty feet high from the foundation. Within it are sixteen feet depth of water, at the time of the spring tide, and ten at the neap. It will secure vessels of 150 tons burthen, not only close to the quay, but along the strand of the town.

There

There are four inlets called Sounds, which leads from St. Mary's harbour, namely, Broad Sound, Smith's, St. Mary's, and Crow's Sound. This harbour is made by the islands of Sampson, Brehar, and Trescaw, to the north-west, and the opposite island of St. Mary, from whence it is named. Ships may ride here in from five to three fathoms water; but there is some difficulty in getting in. The anchorage is very good at the bottom, and there is hardly any wind can blow, but ships of 150 tons may easily get out at one of the sounds, except through Crow Sound, which is not passable at low water; but, at high water, there are from sixteen to twenty-four feet, so that if it blows hard, and ships chuse to put to sea, they may get out when the tide serves.

There are two other harbours, one of which is called New Grinsey, between the islands Brehar and Trescaw, where ships of 300 tons may ride securely. The other is called Old Grinsey, and lies between St. Helens, Trescaw and Theon, and is proper for smaller ships. All these harbours are so full of rocks, that ships coming in generally chuse to take a pilot, especially if the wind blows hard.

In this island, there are fifteen distinct tenements or farms, with cultivated lands round the houses. That of Holy-vale is most pleasantly seated, it being so well sheltered from the north winds, that trees will thrive very well; and Mr. Borlase is of opinion, that every kind of fruit-tree, proper to England, might be propagated here with great success.

All the shores of St. Mary's island, where an enemy might land, have the ruins of block houses and batteries, with breast-works reaching from one battery to another. These are thought to have been built in the time of the civil wars, except the

the giant's castle, which was certainly erected before the time of the Norman conquest. This is situated on a promontory, which, towards the sea, consists of immense crags of rocks, seemingly heaped one upon another. This heap, or turret of rocks, has a sudden decline, but is not so rough on the land side as towards the sea; it then spreads to join the downs, where, at the foot of this knoll, it has first a ditch, crossing the neck of land from sea to sea; and then a low vallum in the same direction. After this there is another ditch, with a higher vallum; and lastly, near the top of the crag, there was a wall of stone surrounding every part, unless where the natural rocks were a sufficient security. This wall, by its ruins, appears to have been very high and thick. It has the name of the Giant's Castle, because all extraordinary works are, by the common people, attributed either to giants or to the devil. There are many of these castles on the Cornish cliffs, and Borlase was of opinion, they were designed as a retreat for invaders to return to their ships upon occasion, which renders it probable, that they are as ancient as the times of the Danish or Saxon invasions.

There are no religious monuments of the Monkish kind in this island; but of the Druids there are many, particularly circles of stones standing erect. These were probably places of worship in the times of the Druids; they consist of detached pillars, placed at undetermined distances, as is usual elsewhere. One circle is eighteen feet in diameter, another fifteen, a third twenty-six and a half, and this last consisted of sixteen stones, and two detached pillars, forty-three feet and a half distant from each other. A little to the eastward is another small circle; and they are all of the same construction.

On

On the Karn, near the giant's castle, the back of the rock seems to have been cleared by art from all unevenness; and the whole forms a single plain of rock, measuring 172 feet from north to south, and 138 from east to west. On the edges of the area are nine vast stones, remaining with others of a smaller size placed in a circular line; but there is no uniformity in their shape or distances. One stone on the edge of this temple, as Borlase calls it, with great propriety, was seven feet ten inches high from the ground; and its front, towards the center, was twenty feet long; it was also forty-three feet in girth, and had thirteen distinct and curious basons sunk into the top of it. A rude pillar lies about fifty-five paces from this; and in a line from these two rocks is one that is flat, with three rock basons on its surface; afterwards there is another on the same line, with four basons, and the same number on another, planted on the longest diameter of the temple towards the south. The floor, consisting only of a single rock, is a proof that the circle was intended for a place of worship. On this island, as well as on every one of the others, are a great number of rock basons, from whence we may conclude, that the same kind of worship obtained here as in Cornwall, where they are found in greater numbers, than in any other part of Britain.

At Peninis, a quarter of a mile below the new windmill, beyond a very stony hill, is a knoll of the promontory, covered with turf; and in several parts are large karns, between which is found a fine verdure. There are also many rock basons here, though many stones have been cut, and carried off for building; for here not only their houses, but their hedges and fortifications, are all of stone. On one rock are fifteen basons of the very largest kind, which are all round.

The

The sides of one of these basons are concave, not perpendicular, and the bottom inscribed within the oval is circular, four feet in diameter, and as exactly hollowed as a cup. There is another bason contiguous to, and beneath the first, of a more circular shape, that seems to have been designed to receive the water that fell from the first: thirteen basons of different sizes, communicated their moisture to the two great ones. Fronting this group, at a little distance, there is a prodigious thin pyramidal rock, twelve feet broad at the base, and thirty feet high, thought to have been an object of the Druid devotion. About half a mile north-east of the giant's castle, stands a Tolmên, near a hill of the same name. It agrees with the great Tolmên of Constantine parish in Cornwall, and is forty-four feet in girth from the top to the bottom. It has one very regular round bason near the top, without any sign of having had any more. On the next hill is another Tolmên, which is still a vast stone fifty-two feet in girth; and was formerly more, there being a large piece split off, either by lightening, or a natural defect of the stone. It lies by it, and has a little bason on the top; but underneath are several stones much smaller, and placed, as is supposed, to keep the sacred rock from the ground; it having been a principle of the Druids, that things dedicated to a sacred use, should never be defiled by touching the earth. Farther to the east, on the same hill, is another smaller monument of the same kind.

In a cove called Porthilik, between the Tolmêns above-described, was found in 1707 the body of Sir Cloudesley Shovel. It was stripped naked, and was buried in a bank of sand; but was afterwards removed to Westminster Abbey.

The ancient sepulchres of this island are either
caves

caves or barrows: of the caves, the most remarkable is the giant's cave near Sots-hill. Its mouth is four feet six inches wide, thirteen feet eight inches long, and three feet eight high. It is covered from end to end with large flat stones, which serve as a shelter for the sheep; and there is a tumulus of rubbish on the top of all. Mr. Borda observes, that these places should be called burrows, and not barrows, because the former word is derived from the Saxon verb *byrigtan*, whence the English to bury, and that barrow properly means a place of defence.

The barrows here, and in the adjacent island, are very numerous, and constructed in the same manner. The outer ring is composed of large stones placed on one end, and the heap within consists of smaller stones, clay and earth mixed together. They have generally a cavity of stonework in the middle, covered with flat stones. The barrows themselves are of various dimensions, and the cavities being low, are now covered with rubble, for which reason some of them can hardly be distinguished.

On one of the hills are many of these barrows, where the inhabitants pretend giants have been buried. Some of these were opened by Mr. Borda, in the month of June 1752, and in the first were found neither bones nor urns, but a strong unctious earth that had a cadaverous smell. In the middle, was a large cavity full of earth, and a passage into it at the eastern end, one foot eight inches wide, between two stones that stood erect. The cavity was one foot eight inches wide in the middle, and the length was twenty-two feet; it was walled on each side with masonry and mortar. The walls or sides were four feet ten inches high, and at the western end was a large flat stone laid edgeways, which terminated the cavity.

The

The next barrow that was opened was of the same kind, but less in all respects; and in this were earths of different colours, but nothing that was a proof of any one's having been buried there. While this was opening there happened a most violent storm, which the inhabitants attributed to the disturbing these ancient monuments, where the pretended giants had been buried. The other barrows that were examined were of the same kind with the former, and were probably made so large, that they might hold more bodies than one.

There are two rude stone pillars still standing in this island, which are thought to have been idols of the Druids. One is on the top of a round hill, on a little tumulus near Harry's battery, it is ten feet above the ground, and two feet nine inches broad; another near Bant's Karn, is nine feet three inches high, and two feet six inches square. On the point of a promontory, in Normandy tenement, there are many irregular furrows, traversing the surface of a large rock with ridges or partitions between. They are the work of art, but for what designed is hard to say.

The island called AGNES, is three miles distant from St. Mary's, and is well cultivated and fruitful, both in corn and grass, but they have no good water, the best being that which drops from the clouds, and is collected upon the leaden floor of the gallery of the light-house; which, falling from thence into a cistern, is mixed with a great deal of filth, and becomes very disagreeable.

They have very pretty coves in this island, and more particularly one to the south, called by way of eminence the Cove. Here the ground is so sandy, and the water so clear and deep, that in summer time they might catch as many pilchards as they please; but this happy situation is of no advantage to them at present. The

The greatest ornament of this island is the light-house which stands on the highest ground, and is a very fine column. From the foundation to the bottom of the lanthorn it is fifty-one feet high, and the gallery is four; the sash lights are eleven feet six inches high; and three feet two inches broad. Each pane of glass is one foot nine inches and a half high, by one foot five and a half broad, and the sashes are sixteen in number. The column is divided into three stories, and the stairs up to the first story are of stone, but those higher are of timber. On the floor of the lanthorn is a platform of brick, upon which stands a substantial square iron grate, with bars on every side, and in it is a coal fire lighted every night. The lanthorn, consisting wholly of timber-work and glass, is a spacious room with a coving canopy roof; in the middle of it is a large chimney, round which are smaller funnels, that contribute to discharge the smoak. A large quantity of coals being required to supply the fire, they are drawn up through a trap door, by means of a windlass. The cinders are thrown into a gutter-hole, and pass through a hollow passage, made in the buttress to the bottom where they are discharged. There is a gallery quite round the lanthorn railed in, where the firemen may air themselves. All the stone-work is covered with white plaster, which renders it as good a sea-mark in the day time, for ships coming from the southward, as the fire is by night. This island belongs to lord Godolphin, as they all do, and contains about fifty families. Leland tells us, there were but five families in his time, and that they were all drowned in returning from St. Mary's island, where they had been at a marriage feast. He tells us also of a chapel here, but it is not the same that is now called the Church. These churches,
of

of the smaller isles, are all built in the same manner; they being from twenty-two to thirty-four feet long, and fourteen wide.

From Agnes you pass to Guêw, over a bar of sand, between the cove on the right hand, and a very rocky creek on the other. It is reckoned part of Agnes, being never divided from it, but when there are high boisterous tides. Here on a plain is a large erect stone nine feet high, and two feet six inches broad; and on one of the eminences is a stone barrow, in the middle of which is a cave thirteen feet long, four feet four inches wide, and covered with five large flat stones laid across. There are also many little low burrows edged with stone; and the remains of stone enclosures plainly shew, that it was once cultivated and inhabited; but at present there is neither corn, nor field, it serving only as a coarse common to Agnes.

ANNET is about 400 yards westward of Agnes. It is a narrow slip, consisting mostly of rock, and containing about ninety or one hundred acres of land. There are rock basons upon it, and the remains of stone enclosures. The sand being washed away a few years since by high tides, there were discovered the walls of a house; but what is more remarkable, there are rock basons on several large stones covered by the sea, when the tide is in.

On the southermost point of TRESCAW, otherwise called St. Nicholas's Island, there is a very rough beach, as far as an old breast-work, called Oliver's battery. It is irregular and uneven, and seems to have been fortified long before Oliver's time. From this old battery, descending between the sand banks, there is a road towards the abbey, passing by the Abbey-pond, which is a most beautiful piece of fresh water, edged with camomile

mile turf, without either briar, thistle or flag; it is about half a mile long, and a furlong broad. An evergreen bank, without rock or weed, rises high enough to keep out the sea, serving at the same time to preserve the pond, and shelter the abbey. The water is clear, and contains the finest eels that ever were tasted. The land is cultivated all round it, and by its gentle declivity, to the very brim of the water, adds much to the beauty of the place.

The abbey church stood on a small eminence fronting the southern end of the pond; and tho' higher on the hill behind the abbey, you may see the rocks and crags of Scilly, yet here at the monastery the prospect is confined. The stones of the church are for the most part carried off to mend the poor huts that stand below it, on the spot where the monastery stood. The door, two handsome arched openings, and several windows, are still to be seen, cased with very good free stone, which it is thought the Monks procured from Normandy.

On a high ridge, near the abbey, is a prospect of New Grinsey harbour; from whence, descending past the neck of land, named Oliver's camp, in honour of him, though he was never here in person. There is an ascent up a high hill, called Dolphin Downs; on this there is a pole, on which a flag may be hoisted, to give notice to ships at a distance, that the pilot boats are coming out; but at present it is made no use of. On these Downs there is a large opening made in the ground, dug about the depth of a common stone quarry, and in the same shape. There are several such in the parish of St. Just, in Cornwall, where they are called Koffens. These serve to shew, that the ancient way of mining was to search for metals, in the same way as is
used

used at present to raise stones out of quarries ; and must have been very tedious and expensive.

A little farther is a row of shallow tin-pits ; for none appear to be more than four fathom deep, and some are only six or eight feet perpendicular ; to the west of this is the mouth of a drain or adit. The course of tin bears west and east, nearly as the tin veins do in Cornwall. These are the only tin-pits found in any of these islands.

This tin course lies near the northern point of the promontory. In the way from thence, towards the old castle, there is a vast flat rock shelving on the surface nineteen feet long ; it had a trench round it edged with a bank of smaller stones, making a full circuit round the rock thirty-six feet in diameter. There is a very great conformity between this and a natural rock at Karnmen-Elez, in Wendron parish in Cornwall, which is of the same length as this, and surrounded by a circular trench within six inches of the same diameter. Mr. Borlase takes these to have been rock deities, or altars ; for Pliny tells us, that the ancients, with great veneration, enclosed those rocks from prophane approaches, which served them as objects of devotion. This remarkable monument is but a small distance west and by north of the old castle.

The old castle is a large pile of ruins ; though many windows, door cases, and embrasures, towards the harbour of New Grinsey, are still standing, shewing it to have been formerly an important structure ; but, however, the building appears to have been more expensive than curious. Contiguous to the land side are the lines of a fort, principally intended as a security against a land attack ; towards the sea the steep craggy hill answers that purpose. Leland calls it a little pile or fortress, which renders it probable, that it was repaired

repaired and enlarged after his time. However, it is now neglected, and one more serviceable has been built below out of its ruins, which is called Oliver's castle.

The principal battery in this castle has no larger guns than nine pounders; but it commands the harbour of New Grynsey more effectually, than cannon of any size could have done from the old castle. There is a guard-room near the battery, and another room arched with a stone roof, intended to support a second battery of four pounders on the top of the tower. The parapet here is about six feet high; and the whole fortrefs was repaired in 1740, and put in a state of defence; but as there is no guard kept here, the timber work is going to decay.

The church is exactly of the same make as that at Agnes; but they still bury their dead at the abbey, believing it to be a more holy place. The principal tenement or farm is called the Dolphin, where the soil is extremely fruitful. Not far from the church is the cove, called Old Grinsey, from which they carry ore weed for making kelp. On a point of this cove is a small block-house, with a battery contiguous to it called Dover, intended to command this passage into Helen's pool, and St. Mary's harbour. Trescaw contains about forty families, and its value is 80 l. a year.

Helen's pool, in St. Helen's isle, is a pleasant round bason, in which small ships may safely ride. The lower part of this island seems to consist of very good land; though it is now deserted, but it was formerly cultivated, inhabited, and greatly resorted to by pilgrims.

The church of this island is the most ancient Christian structure of them all; it consists of a south isle, thirty-one feet six inches long, by fourteen and three inches wide; from which two

arches that are low, and of an uncouth stile open into a north isle, twelve feet broad by nineteen, six inches long. There are two windows in each isle, and near the eastern window, in the north isle, a flat stone projects, probably to support the image of the saint, to whom the church was dedicated. The ruins of several houses still appear about the church.

Between St. Helen's and Trescaw is an island, called NORTH-WETHEL, which only consists of about ten acres of land; there are several rock basons on it, and one sepulchral barrow, some remains of enclosures, several very large rocks, and a ledge called the Tolmèn, from a rock which is thirty-three feet round, and twenty-two over. It stands on two stones in such a manner, that a man may creep under it. There is no bason on this Tolmèn; it is the only monument of the kind that Mr. Borlase found without one.

The little island called TEAN, is at present uninhabited; but on it are some ruins, with fields of corn and pasture.

ST. MARTIN'S is a little farther to the south-west; and the first thing Mr. Borlase met with worth notice, was a circle of upright stones twenty feet in diameter. On the top of the adjoining karn, is a large stone which formerly stood upright, but is now fallen down, and is seven feet six inches long. There were also two circular barrows, and a third erected on the very top with a covered cave in the middle. Two hundred paces to the left was another of the same kind; and on the highest crag of this hill are several rock basons, some of which are shelving and declining from their first position, probably by some violence. This island seems to have been once cultivated; as the traces of hedges may be seen
crossing

crossing the ridge, and descending to the sea on either hand; it is now, however, improper for cultivation, it being over-run with sand, and the soil quite buried. The present fields are very small, and lie towards the south, from the decline of the hill to the edge of the water; but the higher parts are all one common, the surface being either too stony and shallow to make arable land, or covered with sand blown from the northern coves below. Yet the places which had suffered so much in former ages from the sand, has by length of time contracted soil enough to form a turfy pasture, on which the inhabitants keep many sheep. The sheep-run is two miles in length, but below this turf there is nothing but sand for a great depth.

There is a small pier about the middle of this island, very useful for boats; and above it is a large group of rocks, in which many pieces are evidently shivered off, either by their own weight, or by lightening. At the eastern end is a very high rocky promontory, called St. Martin's Head; on the summit of which, a round tower twenty feet high was built; and on the top of this a spire of as many feet more, plastered with lime on the out-side, and designed as a day-mark for ships, which come near this dangerous coast. A stone staircase within leads to the top of the tower, from whence is an extensive prospect, and a fine view of England. The church here is larger and better situated than that of any of the off-islands.

This island is only a narrow ridge of land, and though entirely cultivated in former times, it had not one inhabitant about eighty years ago. But people being encouraged to settle here, it has now not only fine pastures, but produces very good corn. The number of inhabitants are between sixty and seventy. The families are eighteen,

who are all related, and are unwilling to admit strangers among them, because they think they are very happily seated. However some of them, for want of a sufficient quantity of arable land in their own island, rent some in St. Mary's, or in other islands, and live part of the year there, to employ themselves; but as soon as the crop is got in, they return to St. Martin's with pleasure, which they look upon as their home. They burn a great deal of kelp here, and think they understand making it better than the other islanders.

BREHAR, is a little to the north-east of Trescaw, and the town of that name consists of a few poor houses. Near it is a very tall pyramidal group of rocks, now called Hang-man island, because some mutinous soldiers were hanged here by the parliament, in the time of the civil wars. This island of Brehar is very mountainous, and on the first hill are many small barrows edged with stone, like those already taken notice of. They lie scattered through the Downs, on the knoll of which, are the remains of a circular structure, ten feet in diameter, which was probably an ancient day-mark. Near it is a small circle, edged with upright stones, about eight feet in diameter, planted on the back of a rock. This circle could not be designed for a burial-place, and it is highly probable it was intended for the worship of fire. There are the remains of stone enclosures, on this ridge, which is now almost entirely bare, from the violent spray of the sea; and the small quantity of soil that still remains, serving instead of turf, is carried off for fuel. The harbour of New Grinsey lies between this hill and the northern point of Trescaw, and ships of two or three hundred ton may ride afloat under Oliver's castle; smaller ships may also lie safely on the sand banks farther in. On another hill is
a very

a very large circular barrow of stone, seven feet in diameter; and within it are many Kistvains, for so the Britons called Stone Cells; the flat stones that covered them are scattered; but some keep their first station, and others have been removed to make stands for shooting rabbits, with which this part of the hill abounds.

From this hill may be seen the Guêl-hill of Brehar, and the isle of Guel, stretching away towards the little isle of Scilly, making with it a curve, of which Scilly is the head land; and from the furthest hill of Brehar a promontory shoots out, at the extreme point of which rises a vast rocky turret, called the Castle of Brehar. Many rocks shew themselves on every side, and seem to manifest their former connection with Brehar, and that they owe their present nakedness to the fury of the ocean.

On the sea-shore of Brehar is the church, built about twenty-three years ago by the lord proprietor; and two furlongs from hence, on a green plot near the water-side, is a small regular intrenchment, designed as is supposed for an advanced guard, or place of arms, for the parliament forces. The curtain is but twenty-one feet long; and from one curtain across to the other is but fifty-four feet. Many ruins of houses still appear in the higher Brehar, the foundation stones remaining. The sands reach from this island to Trescaw, and may sometimes be passed on foot; but without, towards the ocean, the water is very deep. It is the roughest and most mountainous of all the islands, and not many years since there were but two families in it, but now there are thirteen; its yearly value is 30 l.

The isle of SAMSON appears at a distance like two large barrows linked together at the edges, which, in the prospect from St. Mary's, have a

very beautiful effect; for they are not only well shaped, but green from the top to the bottom; however, when you approach near, it does not answer expectation. The green fides are covered with little else besides fern, and the sandy parts are of a very bright colour, blown up by the northern winds, and cover a great part. Here are many remains of enclosures descending from the hill, and running many feet under the level of the sea towards Trescaw. It may be observed, that the flats between Brehar, Trescaw and Samson, are quite dry at the low water of a spring tide, insomuch, that men may pass dry-shod from one island to another over the sand banks, where enclosures and ruins are frequently discovered, upon the shifting of the sands, over which, at full sea, there are ten or twelve feet water. This is a demonstration, that the islands last-mentioned, were once one continued tract of land divided into fields, and cultivated even in those low parts, which are now over-run with the sea and sand.

On the first hill, among a large group of rocks, there is one canopy rock, which projects from the rest five feet six inches, and stands six feet eight inches from the ground. On the very top of this hill are eleven stone barrows, of like structure with those of the other islands.

On the other hill are two rock basons and ruins of houses; there is also a Kistvain in a stone barrow; and on the top of the hill a vast range of rocks, from which many stones are fallen. One large rock in particular was known to be split to pieces by lightening, a few years ago. Many more ruins appear on this hill, which shew, that the island was much better inhabited, before the sea and sands forced the people to desert it. There are at present but two families, who have a few small meadows
round

round their houses ; yet the land will not produce half corn enough for their use ; for which reason they employ themselves in fishing and making kelp. There are several little islands to the east of the rest, which are therefore called the Eastern islands. On one of them called ARTHUR ; there are three barrows, and the remains of enclosures, but nothing else remarkable.

It is hard to give an exact account of the ancient inhabitants of these islands, with regard to their habitations and works of peace, war and religion, they being all now extinct, which perhaps may be owing to the gradual advances of the sea, and a sudden drowning of the lands ; for even at this time the sea is perpetually preying upon these islands, and leaves nothing where it can reach, except bare rocks. That these islands have undergone some great catastrophe is beyond all doubt, and they must have suffered greatly from a subsidence of the land, the common consequence of earthquakes, attended by a sudden inundation of those parts, where ruins, fences, mines, and other things, the traces of which still remain, formerly stood. This inundation might probably destroy many of the ancient inhabitants, and so terrify the survivors, as to make them forsake their country.

Many may be willing to know when this inundation happened ; but of this there is no certainty. In the time of Strabo, and Diodorus Siculus, the commerce of these islands seems to have been in full vigour ; for, according to this last-mentioned author, abundance of tin was carried away in carts. Strabo informs us, that there were ten islands in all, nine of which were inhabited. Therefore the destruction of Scilly must be placed after the time of these authors, that is, after the Augustine age ; but how long after is

uncertain. Plutarch hints, that the islands round Britain were generally unpeopled in his time; and if he includes Scilly among them, and was rightly informed, that desolation must have happened between the reign of Augustus, and that of Trajan.

There was a great subsidence on the southern coasts of England, in the time of Edward the First, whereby Winchelsea, near Rye in Suffex, was swallowed up, and its ruins are now three miles within the high sea; but this must be much later than that which happened to Scilly.

In the year 1014 there was a great inundation taken notice of in the Saxon chronicle; but Mr. Borlase thinks, that the catastrophe of these islands ought not to be placed even so late as this; because, as there were Monks there in the year 938, or soon after, nothing of this kind could have happened, without its having been taken notice of somewhere or other.

The best account we have, is of an inundation which affected the south part of Ireland, and at the same time might reach Scilly, and the coast of Cornwall; for in the end of March 830, Hugh Dorndighe, being monarch of Ireland, there happened such terrible shocks of thunder and lightning, that above 1000 persons were destroyed between Corca-Bascoin, a part of the county of Cork, then so called, and the sea-side. At the same time the sea broke through its banks, in a violent manner, and over-flowed a considerable tract of land. The island then called Junis-Fadda, on the west coast of the county of Cork, was forced asunder, and divided into three parts.

As this inundation seems well attested, it might, in all probability, have reached Cornwall and Scilly; and this, in Mr. Borlase's opinion, is what

what reduced, divided, and destroyed the Scilly islands.

What the state of these islands was in the time of the Romans is uncertain; but it is thought that, during the piracies of the Danes, they were an occasional retreat, and that the Giant's castle in St. Mary's island is a work of the Danes. In the beginning of the tenth century, the importance of these islands was better known, and that it would be dangerous, for the safety and trade of Britain, if they should fall into an enemy's hands. This seems to be the reason why Athelstan made a voyage to, and conquered these islands. It is thought that this king gave them to the Monks, he being commonly very liberal that way. They had all the tithes of Scilly, and particularly of rabbits, given them by Richard Dewick, for his soul, and the souls of his parents, and of Reginald, earl of Cornwall, his lord. King John, in the year 1200, gave, granted and confirmed to the abbey of Scilly the tythe of three acres of Assart-land, that is, such as was cleared from roots, trees and shrubs. In the reign of Henry III. Drew de Barrentine was governor of these islands, from the year 1248 to the year 1251. In the reign of Edward I. they were in a declining condition; for their want of security, occasioned a want of every thing else; a representation of which was made to the king by the Monks.

In the year 1418, Sir John Colshull conveyed to John Preston and others the castles and isles of Scilly to the use of Sir John Colshull, Knt. for life; and there is a memorandum at the bottom of one of the recitals, of a conveyance of Scilly to the heirs of Colshull in the year 1440, which says, that the islands of Scilly were held of the king, at the rent of fifty duffins, or six shillings and eight-pence yearly. In the inquisition, in the first

of Richard III. it is said, the islands were worth 40 shillings yearly in peaceable times, but in times of war nothing. This was in the year 1484. They afterwards passed through several hands, and by exchange in queen Mary's time came to the crown; but in the thirteenth of Elizabeth they were granted by her to Francis Godolphin, Esq; and from that time the recovery of them may be dated. This gentleman was lord lieutenant of the county of Cornwall, and Star Castle was begun and finished by him in the year 1593. At the same time a curtain and bastions were built on the same hill, and more were intended which are now finished. There was enough done at that time to guard the harbour tolerably well, as also the Pool just below the castle. This being built and properly garisoned, houses were soon erected below the lines upon the edge of the Pool, and inhabitants were encouraged to settle here. Before the time of queen Elizabeth the inhabitants were so very few, and the value of the whole land so inconsiderable, that Sir Francis Godolphin paid ten pounds only as a yearly rent to the crown. But the safety of the islands being well provided for, it brought together so many new people, that it stifled all remembrance of the old inhabitants. For this reason there are few places that retain the old British names; because the new comers called the lands by the names of the occupiers.

Before we conclude this account of the Scilly islands it ought to be observed, that they are of great advantage to shipping in general, bound to the coast of England from the southward; but they are of more particular service to all channel traders, many of them being obliged to pass near Scilly; so that if it blows any thing hard, they will always chuse to bear away for it. Besides, there being a constant intercourse between St.

George's

George's and the English channel, it is very advantageous to have such a resting-place in bad weather, without being obliged to put back to other harbours. Homeward bound ships also, especially from America, often put into Scilly, it being the first land they generally make in their way to the ports of England; for people, after long voyages, are always willing to catch at the first refreshments that offer.

This is in time of peace, but in time of war, it is of the utmost importance to England to have Scilly in its possession; for lying at the point of England, and looking as it were into both channels, no ship could pass, but a privateer can speak with it from one of these Sounds.

In time of war, or in any danger of invasion, they want more soldiers than they have at present, to man so extensive a line as that of Mary's fort, which is near two miles in circumference, to say nothing of the batteries of Old and New Grinsey. However, as long as the British navy is superior in the channel, Scilly will be safe. If the islanders, from 20 to 50 years of age, were trained up to the use of arms, it might contribute to their security, without burthening their lord, or the government.

CUM.



C U M B E R L A N D.



UTHORS are divided in their opinions of the origin of the name of this county; some think it may be derived from the British word *Comb*, signifying a valley between hills, as the use of this old name was in several places adopted by the Saxons; thus in Cambridgeshire there is a village, situated under a hill, which is called Cumberton, and near Koyston is a valley called Kelsey-comb. Salmon conjectures the original name might be Comb-moreland, to distinguish it from Westmoreland; this, however, is not probable, as no ancient records call it by that name; a part of Staffordshire is also called the Moor-lands. It is much more likely to have received its name after the ancient inhabitants, who were called *Cumbri* or *Cambri*, and were included in the Brigantes, a potent British nation, which inhabited Cumberland, Yorkshire, Durham, Lancashire and Westmoreland. It is natural enough to imagine that the Saxons, finding the *Cumbri* possessed of this part of the island, gave it the name of Cumbreland, as much as to say the country of the *Cumbri*.

Notwithstanding the dreadful savages of the *Picts* and *Scots*, after the declension of the Roman power in this island, the original inhabitants, the Britons, continued longer here than in any other county; and fell the latest under the power of
of

of the Saxons. After the Saxons had established themselves, it became a part of the kingdom of Northumberland. When those people were extremely harrassed by the Danes, Cumberland appears to have set up kings of its own, who reigned till the year 946. At that period Edmund, brother of king Athelstan, with the help of Leoline, king of South Wales, conquered it, and granted it to Malcolm, king of Scotland, upon his engaging to defend the northern borders of England, against all invaders. By this grant the eldest sons of the kings of Scotland were stiled governors of Cumberland. Some time afterwards the Saxons subdued it again; and at the Norman conquest it was so greatly impoverished, that the conqueror excepted it from the payment of taxes, on which account it is not rated in Doom's-day-book. King Stephen, restored it to the Scots, but his successor, Henry the Second, claimed it back, and returned Huntingdonshire, in lieu thereof, to the Scots king. Under succeeding princes, it has frequently been exposed to the incursions of our northern brethren, by which it has suffered extremely, and the last time, by the march and retreat of the rebels, in the year 1745, whose behaviour is too well remembered to require farther mention.

Cumberland is one of the most northern counties in England, and is bounded on the north by Scotland, and part of Northumberland; on the west by the Irish sea; on the south by Lancashire, and on the east by Westmoreland, Durham and Northumberland. It is sixty miles in length, near fifty in breadth, where broadest, though in some places it is very narrow, and 168 miles in circumference.

Its northern situation renders the air sharp and piercing, which would be still worse, if the high hills

hills to the north did not shelter it from storms. The soil is indifferently fruitful, both in corn and grass, for there are plains that yield a considerable quantity of corn, and the mountains are always well stocked with sheep. The country in general is very uneven and hilly; yet is not without its advantages and pleasures, there being delightful prospects from the hills. Some of the mountains are very remarkable for their height; of these we shall first mention Wry-nose, situated on the south-eastern borders of the county, the great road from Whitehaven to Hawkshead passing over it; near this road, on the top of the mountain, are three shire stones which stand within a foot of each other, yet are in different counties, namely, in Cumberland, Westmoreland and Lancashire.

Hard-knot-hill is situated a few miles to the north-west of Wry-nose, and from the foot of it springs the river Esk. It is a very high, rugged, and almost inaccessible mountain; yet, notwithstanding its steepness, Camden observes, that in his time there had lately been some large stones dug up on the top of it; these were most probably the remains of some chapel, which might have been erected on its summit, it being formerly deemed very meritorious to raise such structures, for the uses of religion in places difficult of access; of this we have already taken notice in our description of St. Michael's mount in Cornwall, and indeed such places were generally dedicated to St. Michael.

In treating of the mountains of this county we ought not to omit taking notice of Christenbury Craigs, a group of perpendicular rocks, rising and resembling at a distance one of the enchanted castles described in romance, on the top of a mountain, in the northern part of the county, and on the skirts of Northumberland. A gentleman, who
took

took a journey on purpose to view them, represents this part of the county for a considerable distance as the most desolate that can be imagined. On approaching the mountain, within sight of the precipices, he and his guide entered a hollow, through which the river Line runs among innumerable precipices, where they were often obliged to cross the water, to avoid the falls, and going sometimes on one side and sometimes on the other, proceeded about a mile of winding ways, till at length they entered a kind of plain, one side of which was bounded by the declivity of the mountains, which they began to ascend, and soon reached a part which was level with the base of the Craigs; they then left their horses, and proceeded on foot above a mile and a half over a tract of ground full of holes, filled with a boggy substance, which in this country is called moss, where they were in perpetual terror, lest it should give way under their feet, or lest some cloud being stopped, by the rocks, should bury them in a fog, and not only disappoint the gentleman's curiosity, but prevent the recovery of their horses. However, they still went forward, and came to a place that was covered with moss of another kind. This lay about the ground in little heaps, about a foot over, called Hassocks, which were full of holes like an honey-comb; the long irregular strides they were obliged to take, rendered this part of their journey extremely fatiguing. When they came within about a quarter of a mile of the base of the rock, they suddenly entered on the finest grass plat that nature can produce; the ascent over this green is very gradual, and it has the appearance of a small artificial slope. The rocks, upon a near view, appear extremely rude and romantic; they being broken by innumerable fissures that extend from the top to the bottom, in a perpendicular direction;

tion; most of them are from ten to fifteen yards high, and it is not difficult to walk at the top of them; nor in many places, to step from one to another; some of them, however, project considerably over the side of the mountain, and upon these it would be dangerous to stand; they cover about three acres of ground, and bear some resemblance to Stone Henge, particularly in the difficulty of numbering them. This mountain has, at present, no inhabitants but wild cats, of which there are many extremely large. If the rottenness of the soil on which these rocks stand, be considered, it will not, perhaps, be thought an improbable conjecture, that the whole summit of the mountain was once of the same height with the rocks; but that the wind and rains having, by degrees, washed and driven the softer parts down from the stone, they were formed into a bog below, and the rocks left naked above. The rocky part itself appears to waste, the interstices being filled with a white sand, which is carried away in drifts, and great quantities of it found in all the neighbouring places, whence it is carried to market, and sold for sharpening scythes and such other offices, it being much better for that use than any other.

Skidaw is a very high mountain, having two heads, situated almost in the center of the county, being about five or six miles nearly north of Keswick. From the top of this mountain, Scruffelt, a mountain of Galloway in Scotland, may be seen. From the clouds rising or falling on these two mountains the inhabitants judge of the weather, and have this old couplet in use amongst them;

—If Skiddaw have a cap,

Scruffelt wots full well of that.

The south part of the county is called Copeland, on account of the many sharp mountains in it
abound-

abounding with minerals and metals, and amongst them rich veins of copper. Such heights were called in British *Copa*, whence the present name seems derived, though others are rather inclined to imagine it was originally called Copper-land. On the south-east side of the county is a large tract of mountainous, hungry, poor desolate country, anciently called the Devil's Fells, or Fiend's Fells, but now Cross Fells, from crosses formerly erected on them. With respect to the minerals and fossils of Cumberland, it is proper to observe, that at Newland's village near Keswick, and several other places amongst the mountains called Derwent Fells, some rich mines of copper, with a mixture of gold and silver, have been formerly discovered. There are also here prodigious quantities of black lead, called by the inhabitants Wadd, which is scarcely found any where but in this county. It is said, that as much may be dug in one year as will serve all Europe for several years. There are also in this county mines of coal, Lapis Calaminaris, and lead, the last of which are royal mines.

There are in Cumberland many lakes or pools of water, called here Meres; these abound with fish and wild fowl; great quantities of sea fish of the best kinds might also be caught on the coasts of this county bordering on the ocean; and the rivers abound with fresh-water fish, particularly the best of salmon, of which they send much to London.

Of the rivers, the principal is the Derwent, which rises in Borrodale, a large vale in the south-east part of the county; and after running along the Derwent Fells, forms a considerable lake, to which it gives its name; in it are three small islands, one formerly the seat of the Radcliffs, one of whom, from this Mere, took the title of Earl

Earl of Derwentwater; the second was in Camden's time inhabited by German miners; and the third is said by Bede to be the place where St. Herbert led a hermit's life. From this lake the river runs through the middle of the county, and making a turn to the westward, passes by Cockermouth, and falls in the Irish sea near Workington.

The Eden soon after entering the eastern side of this county, not far from Penrith, receives the Eymot, a considerable river, which rises in Ulleswater, or Ullismere, a large lake on the south-east borders of Cumberland, being partly in Westmoreland; this Mere is famous for affording the Char, a fine fish, almost peculiar to it, many of which are sent up potted to London. The Eden then crossing the county, passes by Kirkcwald, and afterwards, receiving several other rivers, makes a turn to the west, and falls into Solway frith on the Irish sea.

A remarkable phenomenon was observed of this river, for in the night between the 28th and 29th of December 1763, it fell at Armanthwaite, at least two feet perpendicular. This decrease was so sudden, that several Trouts, and about 209 young Lampreys, had not time to save themselves, but were found the next morning frozen to death. The suddenness of this decrease has been thus ascertained. The miller of Armanthwaite mill left off grinding at 12 o'clock that night, there being then sufficient water to work the mill. He went to the mill the next morning at six, and there was not then water sufficient to turn the wheel round. The water continued in that state, till about 11 o'clock in the morning of the 29th, and then gradually increased (no rain or snow falling) till about one in the afternoon, by which time it had risen about a foot perpendicular. It may

may not be impertinent to observe, that there was a most intense frost that night, and a strong wind varying from the north-east to the south-east, and that the river flows at Armanthwaite, nearly from the south-west to the north-east.

There are besides several other rivers of inferior note, as the Eln, the Esk, the Leven, the Irthing, the South Tyne, the Peterel, and the Caude. On the sea coast near Ravenglass, at the mouth of a small river, pearl muscles are found, for the fishing of which a patent was granted in the beginning of the present century; these pearls are generally of the kind called Land pearls, which, tho' not valuable as ornaments, are of equal use with the best in physick.

This county has also some salutary mineral waters, particularly there is a spring of clear, saltish water at Stangar, two miles south of Cockermouth, and three west of Keswick, with a ferruginous smell and taste, it turns white with spirit of hartshorn, and lets fall as great sediment with oil of tartar, a gallon of this water will yield 1170 grains of sediment, whereof 1080 are sea salt, and the rest lime stone. It is white, hot on the tongue, and grows very moist, in a damp air. There is a little mixture of nitre, with the sea salt, but the latter predominates, and is joined to a considerable quantity of iron. Four or five pints will purge upwards and downwards, and it is excellent in surfeits, pains in the stomach and breast, the green sickness, scurvy, sores, and cutaneous eruptions.

Cumberland abounds with nearly the same kind of plants as are to be met with in the other northern counties of England, the few that are most rarely found we will particularly mention.

Echium Marinum; Sea Bugloss is met with on the sea shore near Whitehaven.

Gladiolus lacustris Dortmanni; Water gilliflower, or gladiole, is found in the lake called Ulleswater, which, as we have already observed, parts Cumberland and Westmoreland.

Orobis Sylvaticus nostras, Ray; English wood bitter vetch. This plant is met with in the hedges and pastures at Gamblesby in Cumberland ward, a few miles north of Wigton; and is also frequent in Wales. It is called by Miller, Bitter Vetch, with oblong oval obtuse winged leaves, entire stipule, half arrow pointed, and a hairy stalk.

Vitis idæa magna, vel myrtillus grandis; the great Bilberry-bush. This is a rare plant, not mentioned by Miller under the article *Vaccinium*, where the other species of this genus are enumerated. It is met with in the moist and marshy ground near Penrith.

Cannabis spuria flore magno albo perelegante; Bastard Hemp, with a large white and elegant flower, is met about Blencarn, in the parish of Kirkland in Leth-ward.

Equisetum nudum variegatum minus; the smaller variegated naked horse-tail, is found in the meadows near Great Salkeld in Leth-ward.

Hesperis pannonica inodora; unsavory pannonian rocket. From this species the double white and purple rockets, so much esteemed for the beauty of their flowers, have been accidentally obtained. This plant is found on the banks of the rivulets about Dalehead, in South Allerdale-ward.

Orchis palmata palustris draconias, meadow-handed orchis. It is found near little Salkeld in Leth-ward, in the meadows along the banks of the Eden, and on Langwathby-holm in the same Ward.

Cynosorchis militaris purpurea adorata, sweet-smelling purple military orchis or dog-stones. The
root

root of this plant consists of two whitish tubercles, about the size of nutmegs, one plump and juicy, and the other fungous and somewhat shrivelled, with a few large fibres at the top. The plump roots, the only part used in medicine, have a faint and rather unpleasant smell, and a viscid sweetish taste. They contain a glutinous slimy juice, on which account they, like althea, and other mucilaginous vegetables, have been found serviceable in a thin acrid state of the humours, and erosions of the intestines. They have also been celebrated for analeptic and aphrodisiac virtues, but appear to have little claim to them. The substance imported from the eastern countries under the names of salep, falleb, and serapias, and recommended like the orchis root, in bilious dysenteries, defluxions on the breast, and as a restorative, appears to be only some prepared roots of plants of the orchis kind, indiscriminately taken. The common orchis root, boiled in water, freed from the skin, and afterwards suspended in the air to dry, assumes exactly the appearance of the salep, and the roots thus prepared do not contract moisture or mouldiness in wet weather, which those dried without boiling are apt to do. They may be used like the salep, and in the same intentions.

Thlaspi minus Clusii, smaller treacle mustard of Clusius. This plant is met with in several of the northern counties, particularly on the lime-stone pastures in Cumberland. The seeds of this plant, have nearly the same medicinal properties as those of common mustard; they enter into the composition of mithridate, but are otherwise seldom made use of. Joined to their acrimony, they have an unpleasant flavour, resembling that of a garlick or onion.

Trogopogon purpureum, purple goats-beard. This plant is cultivated in the garden for the sake of the root, which is dressed various ways; and of late years Mr. Miller observes, it has been cultivated for the stalks, which are cut in the spring when they are four or five inches high, and dressed like asparagus. It grows naturally in the fields about Carlisle, and also in the neighbourhood of Rose Castle in Cumberland Ward.

Virga aurea latifolia serrata, C. B. broad-leaved golden-rod, or Saracen's wound-wort. It is Miller's first species of solidago; he calls it wound-wort with an erect stalk, spear-shaped broad leaves, and flowers in a corymbus on the side and at the top of the stalk. This is a scarce plant in England, but is found in the fields near Alkeld in Leth-ward in Cumberland. The leaves and flowers of golden-rod are recommended as corroborants and aperients, in urinary obstructions, nephritic, ulcerations of the bladder, catarrhes and incipient dropsies; but it is Miller's third species of solidago, which is supposed to be possessed of the greatest virtues in these intentions, being the *Virga aurea angustifolia minus serrata*, C. B.

END OF THE SECOND VOLUME.



